

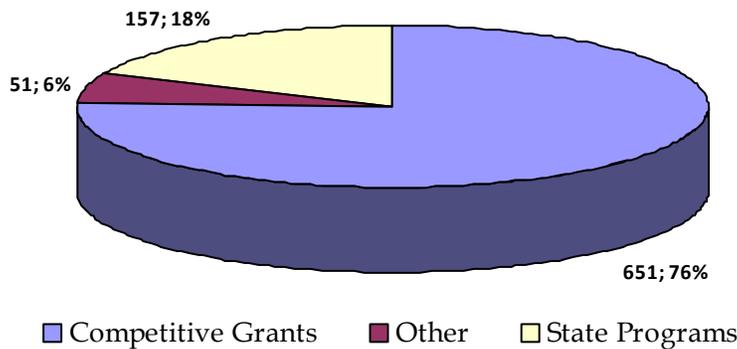


Fiscal Year 2010

Description of Funded Projects

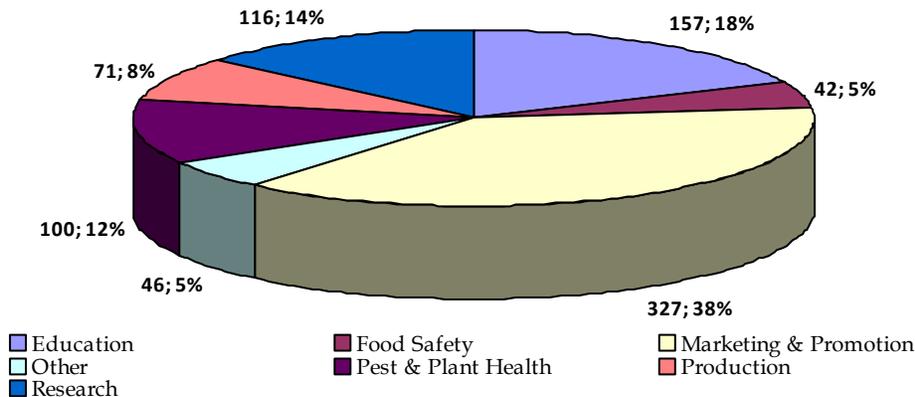
The fifty States, the District of Columbia, and three U.S. Territories were awarded Fiscal Year 2010 funds to perform a total of 859 projects that benefit the specialty crop industry. All the eligible entities with the exception of American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands submitted their applications by the established deadline of July 29, 2010. The approved awards are listed alphabetically.

2010 Project Delivery Types



- State Program** The proposal illustrated that the State department of agriculture planned to administer the project and/or a competitive grant program was not conducted.
- Competitive Grants** The proposal demonstrated that a fair and open competition was conducted and the project partner(s) are clearly involved.
- Other** The proposal illustrated that project partners met with the grantee to determine project priorities, but an open competitive grant program was not conducted.

2010 Project Types



Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries

Amount Awarded:

\$435,904.12

Number of Projects:

12

- Partner with the Alabama Pecan Growers Association by allowing use of the “Buy Fresh, Buy Local” logo in order to educate consumers and growers on the nutritional benefits of pecans, expanding ways to use pecans and informing the consumer of locations of retail outlets for Alabama pecans
- Partner with the Alabama Watermelon Association, Inc. to develop a marketing plan that promotes Alabama watermelons as a healthy, nutritious addition to the daily diet and educate the general public on how to buy watermelons
- Partner with Auburn University to establish a highly visible and accessible garden site to demonstrate and research specialty crops that could be produced in Alabama and to provide a venue for their display, marketing and use
- Partner with Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Talladega County) to create employment opportunities through local production of fruit and vegetables using research based practices concentrating on educational programming for improving eating habits for a healthier lifestyle
- Partner with Auburn University to develop and implement IPM strategies for plum curculio (PC) and stink bugs (SB) that will reduce pesticide use in peach production, reduce production costs, reduce human exposure, and minimize potential environmental effects from over use of insecticides
- Partner with Escambia Blueberry Growers, Inc. to modify the existing blueberry facility and turn it into refrigerated pre-cooling area to preserve the quality of the berries and address the needs of local producers to sell specialty crops with robust consumer demand for locally grown, highly nutritious food of superb quality and safety
- Partner with the SAFE Family Service Center to expand production of Sylacuaga Grows/Community Gardens to provide fresh vegetables for community members
- Partner with Auburn University to determine best management practices for new kiwifruit varieties (AU Golden Dragon, AU Golden Sunshine and AU Fitzgerald) to assess the yield potential for these new varieties, develop grower recommendations, and determine the economic potential of kiwifruit production in Alabama
- Partner with the United Christian Community Association to bridge the employment gap by creating green job opportunities centered on the production, processing, and marketing of vegetables direct to consumers
- Partner with Macon County Farmers Organizations, Inc. to put six Alabama farmers in one acre of plasticulture for growing superior quality collard greens and selected specialty crops to sell to two local processors
- Partner with Chilton Food Innovation Center to provide a non-profit FDA approved facility in central Alabama that utilizes locally grown fruits and vegetables in the preparation of value-added food products
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Alaska Division of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$197,258.55

Number of Projects:

12

- Hire a specialty crop project assistant to increase outreach activities within the Alaska specialty crop industries, as well as add to the specialty crop educational efforts with the general public, specialty crop associations, and individual producers. The project assistants' time and project involvement will be tracked and documented to ensure that seventy-five percent of their time will be spent on eligible specialty crop projects
- Launch a specialty crop marketing campaign in 2011 that will provide greater outreach and increased education about the availability of and access to Alaska Grown specialty crops year round
- Provide timely, accurate and important information regarding Alaska Grown specialty crops through the Alaska Grown website. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Mat Su Chapter of the Alaska Farm Bureau to create a multimedia marketing campaign to increase awareness and support for Alaska Grown specialty crops

- Launch a marketing campaign, create new signage and incorporate the first “market token” program to increase the availability of Alaska Grown specialty crops. The marketing campaign and token program will only feature Alaska Grown specialty crops
- Enhance producer contact and communication and identify potential Alaskan market outlets for rhubarb
- Partner with the Alaska Obesity Prevention & Control Program to enable at least six farmers' markets in Alaska to accept food stamp benefits, increasing access to locally-grown fruits and vegetables for low-income and underserved populations
- Expand the agricultural knowledge of teachers and students throughout the state by providing scholarships to teachers which will allow them to implement specialty crop educational curricula
- Partner with the University of Alaska Fairbanks Palmer Experiment Farm to identify colored flesh potatoes suitable for field production in Alaska by conducting potato variety trials within the state and sharing results with growers through field day demonstrations
- Partner with the Alaska Peony Growers Association to help peony growers identify and combat botrytis gray mold
- Support the creation of a network of *Rhodiola rosea* growers in Alaska through education, networking and coordinated efforts
- Create “The Essential Guide for Successful Wild Berry Farms in Southeast Alaska” in order to encourage and support the development of wild berry farms in southeast Alaska

Arizona Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$1,175,326.21

Number of Projects:

19

- Provide cost share reimbursement assistance to fresh fruit and vegetable producers, growers, distributors, wholesalers, and handlers that become Good Agricultural Practices/Good Handling Practices certified
- Partner with the University of Arizona, Yuma County Cooperative Extension to mitigate food safety risks by continuing the Arizona GHP/GAP training program, providing training curriculum for growers, shippers, coolers, distributors and warehouses in Arizona
- Partner with Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association to conduct the 2011 Southwest Ag Summit (SWAS) to provide an interactive forum between educators, specialists, farmers, and students of the southwest desert specialty crop industry at general sessions, academic workshops and hands-on field demonstrations; and to expand the reach of SWAS through a coordinated marketing program and updated website. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Update and reproduce a reference guide to educate consumers about Arizona produce and nursery plants and encourage them to seek out and purchase Arizona grown specialty crops
- Partner with the Arizona Nursery Association to continue promoting and encouraging the production, sale and use of Arizona grown, regionally adapted landscape plants and trees with a broad marketing program
- Create and produce a trade-show display to promote the Arizona Specialty Crop Block Grant Program and distribute Arizona Specialty Crop Reference Guides
- Partner with the University of Arizona, Cooperative Extension Service to implement USDA Good Agricultural Practices/Good Handling Practices Training Program for Arizona specialty crop producers
- Partner with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, Maricopa County to provide school district personnel with research-based strategies to implement a garden safety program as well as to introduce agricultural concepts into their current curriculum
- Partner with the University of Arizona to provide management recommendations for iceberg lettuce, romaine lettuce, broccoli, cabbage, and carrot growers using image processing, remote sensing, and crop growth models
- Partner with the University of Arizona, Yuma Agricultural Center to evaluate and improve the irrigation/chemigation performance of solid set sprinkler systems used for season long vegetable production
- Partner with the University of Arizona to determine the extent of soil compaction in ‘Medjool’ date orchards and the effect of that compaction on root growth, and to correlate compaction and root growth with tree yields with the goal of increasing Arizona date growers understanding and consequences of the problem

- Partner with University of Arizona, Departments of Soil, Water & Environmental Science and Atmospheric Science to develop and utilize a new Lettuce Ice Forecast System for Yuma County lettuce growers using the high resolution Weather Research and Forecast model
- Partner with the University of Arizona, Vegetable IPM Team to synergize vegetable integrated pest management education in Arizona by strategically investing in an extension educator that will assist a core team of Extension Specialists and Agents in delivering and demonstrating new IPM technology throughout Arizona vegetable production systems
- Partner with the University of Arizona to investigate the potential use of 6 newly registered or existing compounds as potential bird repellents for lettuce seedling protection
- Partner with the University of Arizona to evaluate newly registered pre-emergence herbicides in large strip plots to determine how many post-emergence herbicide sprays can be eliminated annually and to develop herbicide programs that minimize the risk of developing herbicide resistant weeds in Arizona orchards
- Partner with the University of Arizona to maximize control of Lettuce Drop by determining the baseline efficacy of several new fungicides and biofungicides in development compared to existing products and by evaluating parameters to maximize disease control efficiency, including comparison of physical incorporation of products into the soil versus soil surface application and the value of two compared to one application of tested fungicides
- Partner with the University of Arizona, Arizona Pest Management Center to expand the content and usefulness of pest management information that supports vegetable pest management research, education and pesticide registration
- Partner with the University of Arizona to statistically analyze existing whitefly and cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus (CYSDV) data along with newly collected field data and GPS mapping to develop a predictive model that will be useful in generating new IPM guidelines for CYSDV management in melons
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Arkansas Agriculture Department

Amount Awarded:

\$270,934.69

Number of Projects:

10

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- Partner with the Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation to assist minority and limited resource farmers by developing a Good Agricultural Practices/Good Handling Practices certification process and establishing organized market structures
 - Partner with Arkansas Tech University to develop an economic impact study of grapes and wine in the state of Arkansas
 - Assist up to six Arkansas specialty crop companies in displaying at the 2011 Fresh Summit
 - Make financial assistance for signage or other forms of promotion available to direct to consumer points of sale, U-pick farms and farm stands mini grants to be used solely for promoting specialty crops
 - Host educational conferences and workshops of state based producer groups that focus on educational areas that enhance the competitiveness or promotion of eligible specialty crops
 - Partner with the Arkansas Green Industry Association to encourage the production, sale and use of Arkansas-grown regionally adapted landscape plant material by motivating the public to "get out there and Plant Something!" Promotional efforts will include the distribution of promotional materials, educational programs at Arkansas-licensed nurseries and promoting the benefits of tree planting through the Arkansas Urban Forestry Council
 - Partner with the Arkansas Pecan Growers Association to gather information about current practices while equipping growers and processors to make more effective pest management and farm management decisions
 - Partner with the University of Pine Bluff to provide training through a beginner's beekeeping course and workshops and to increase the skills of present beekeepers and assist new beginner beekeepers on rearing queens' bees
 - Partner with the Bismarck School District to increase fruit and vegetable consumption of high school students by establishing school gardens and providing more fruits and vegetables to school cafeterias
 - Partner with the University of Arkansas to develop and release fresh market muscadine varieties for Arkansas growers, which will provide growers with a high-quality, adapted variety to produce

California Department of Food and Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$17,281,158.91

Number of Projects:

74

- Partner with the University of California's Center for Produce Safety to validate the thermal inactivation data of E. coli 0157:H7 and Salmonella spp in compost using naturally occurring isolates, and to develop and validate practical methods for improvement in pathogen control during composting process and subsequent storage and handling
- Partner with the University of California's Center for Produce Safety to help the leafy greens produce industry determine if wild amphibians and reptiles are potential carriers of E. coli 0157:H7 and Salmonella in the central California coast produce production region and identify management practices and prevention strategies that reduce the risk of contamination of leafy greens and nearby waterways
- Partner with the University of California's Center for Produce Safety to determine if E. coli 0157:H7 can be transferred by dust or wind from cattle production environments to leafy green produce crops, the impacts of environmental conditions and proximity on this potential transmission, and the effect of environmental conditions and proximity on the density of flies
- Partner with the University of California's Center for Produce Safety to explore some of the water quality issues related to chlorine effectiveness with the goal being to identify several easily measureable water related factors that can be easily monitored by the specialty crop industry to increase the effectiveness of chlorinated sanitizers
- Partner with the University of California's Center for Produce Safety to develop non-invasive imaging methods to characterize interactions of pathogens with leafy green vegetables and evaluate the potential risk of infiltration/infusion upon vacuum cooling of leafy greens
- Partner with the University of California's Center for Produce Safety to develop data that can be used to accurately define "buffer zones" appropriate for grazing of sheep near the production of leafy greens
- Partner with the University of California's Center for Produce Safety to bring all walnut handlers up to a common level of knowledge about food safety hazards, processes, and programs through a series of online educational modules and facilitate a series of group meetings with handlers to prepare a hazard analysis appropriate for the individual operations
- Partner with the University of California's Center for Produce Safety to provide a scientific basis for making recommendations on glove use and sanitation during harvesting head lettuce and contribute to the improvement of the safety of fresh produce
- Partner with the University of California's Center for Produce Safety to investigate the environmental factors that trigger survival mechanisms in outbreak-related strains of Salmonella and to elucidate those mechanisms related to desiccation tolerance and environmental persistence, which will help the produce industry interpret Salmonella-positive test results and assist in the decision-making process related to pre- and post-harvest risks of contamination
- Enhance the food safety knowledge of California's small specialty crop farmers by creating an educational and informative workshop series that utilizes materials created especially for the small specialty crop farmer, while also providing financial assistance for those who may have been deterred from enacting a food safety program
- Collaborate with the University of California at Davis to develop fertilization guidelines for major specialty crops grown in California
- Increase the capacity to monitor for pesticides in specialty crops and the resulting decrease in sample turnaround time will provide a more favorable time frame for enforcement and surveillance agencies to take action when violations occur by updating the scientific equipment necessary to screen domestic and imported specialty crops for all classes of pesticides and herbicides and in cooperation with enforcement agencies, assuring the quality and safety of California's food supply
- Partner with SureHarvest to build on the successes of the Multi-Commodity Sustainability Practices Program funded in the previous grant cycle which developed for 10 California Commodity groups a sustainability strategic plan, education and outreach model, and a sustainability practices framework. This project will use the education/outreach model and the practices framework to develop self assessment tools for at least 8 specialty crop commodity groups, convene at least 10 self-assessment workshops for each of the commodity groups, and bench mark an agreed upon set of practices and performance metrics for each group
- Partner with Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance to conduct a direct-to-consumer marketing campaign that will grow the market for vintners and growers in the Paso Robles American Viticulture Area by creating awareness about the area's diversity among consumers, trade and media

- Partner with Western Growers Foundation to build on the communications plan currently being developed as part of the 2009 block grant cycle, the California Specialty Crop Communications Coalition (CSCCC) will create and execute a promotional campaign that communicates the value of the specialty crop industry to the consumer. The CSCCC will utilize a 'free groceries for a year' sweepstakes to drive consumers to the CSCCC website where they can register for the contest and learn more about the benefits the specialty crop industry provides the state
- Engage social media to raise consumer awareness on California specialty crops and the farmers who grow our food
- Partner with the University of California, Davis to expand and improve the online specialty crop production information now available at the University of California's established Fruit & Nut Research and Information Center website and call-in center
- Partner with the Trust for Conservation Innovation to build on a previously funded project to add two more counties, Sacramento and Santa Clara, to the previous six in San Diego, Los Angeles, Fresno, Monterey, Oakland and San Francisco to encourage the purchase of eligible specialty crops by SNAP, seniors, and WIC clients at farmers markets. All project participants will be trained to ensure all funding solely benefits eligible specialty crops
- Partner with Buy California Marketing Agreement to conduct a 'California Grown' umbrella marketing effort that will feature growers who are the heart and soul of the California specialty crop industry
- Partner with Sunsweet Growers, Inc. to advertise and promote a newly formulated prune bread emphasizing the dried plum (prune) content
- Partner with the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance to develop and implement a data-driven targeted education project to speed adoption of sustainable practices that conserve natural resources and enhance the competitiveness of California wine
- Partner with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation to create a website that features successfully integrated pest management in California orchard crops through a combination of words, images, and voices to extend the message to both agricultural and urban communities
- Partner with the Alliance for Food and Farming to correct the misconception that some fresh produce items contain excessive amounts of pesticide residues by providing the media, the public and various target audiences with scientific information concerning the safety of fresh fruits and vegetables
- Partner with SureHarvest to expand the scope of subjects covered by the California Almond Sustainability Program self-assessment and work collaboratively with key almond grower and industry stakeholders to expand outreach in the grower community
- Partner with Western Growers to identify where online conversations about the California specialty crop industry are currently taking place, determine what topics are important to consumers, and engage consumers in real-time dialogue designed to educate them about the benefits the industry provides to the state
- Partner with the California Agricultural Export Council and other interested members, which represent California specialty crop products such as almonds, pistachios, prunes, raisins, walnuts, and wine to implement a specialty crop promotional campaign in Europe
- Partner with the Ecology Center's Nutrition, Food, and Farming Policy program to develop a city-wide planning effort that focuses on increased California specialty crop availability, implementation of a marketing campaign for specialty crops at local farmers markets, and provide assistance in the receipt and utilization of wireless electronic benefit transfer devices and Market Scrip. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Center for International Trade to research, create, and circulate an electronic Specialty Commodity Opportunity Outlook that uniformly quantifies and prioritizes export markets for California's top twenty specialty commodities, which represent more than 6 billion of the state's specialty commodity exports
- Partner with Sustainable Agriculture Education to provide real-time, accessible crop information to the public through the development of a syndicated web feed of California specialty crop information for print and online newspapers to feature on their weather and food pages
- Partner with the Almond Board to conduct a state-wide survey of almond production practices that will assist in the development of a comprehensive carbon literature review, modeling of soil carbon and nitrogen dynamics, and the development of a comparison between total carbon impacts of applied pruning compared with burning
- Partner with the California Cut Flower Commission to examine California flower farmers' current sustainability practices and establish a carbon footprint analysis method that compares imported flowers to California Grown flowers and conduct a comprehensive public relations campaign targeting industry, media, and consumers with findings from the study

- Partner with the Buy California Marketing Agreement to implement a marketing and public relations campaign in Canada to increase exports of California specialty crops
- Partner with California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance to field test, evaluate, and implement a climate protection incentive system incorporating the DeNitrification DeComposition model and practices that improve air quality, reduce emissions, improve carbon sequestration potential, and promote other environmental benefits
- Partner with the California Kiwifruit Commission to research and evaluate the potential to reposition and sell California kiwifruit through retail and other channels and improve the profitability and sales of California kiwifruit, which will improve grower return and ensure industry stabilization
- Leverage the expertise of the Division of Fairs and Expositions to connect the elements of agritourism to assist farmers, marketers, and the fair industry in collaborative efforts to enable Californians to access and enjoy Californian grown specialty crops
- Develop a farm-to school program that will result in a pilot program that brings together diverse efforts and funding to achieve a successful model of farm-to-school integration within the underserved communities of the Central Valley
- Combine consumer research and marketing objectives of specialty crop growers into a promotional platform to increase the consumption and visibility of California specialty crops in the domestic market
- Develop a publically available rural modeling tool for the Sacramento region, and a template for statewide application, that will allow local communities within the region to evaluate land use decisions. This project is pro-rated to only include the expenses associated with applicable specialty crop production and associated landscapes
- Promote the consumption of California specialty crops through the development of an innovative Farm to Fork website for specialty crop producers, which will provide a platform for specialty crop growers, food service institutions, community organizations, and others that work in food access
- Partner with Western Growers Foundation in cooperation with the California Department of Education to provide Garden-Enhanced Nutrition Education (GENE) grants to 100 child care/pre-school sites for garden equipment, supplies, and professional development
- Partner with the California State Beekeepers Association, Inc. to encourage land owners and land managers to produce food resources for pollinators, specifically forage crops for honey bees pollinating CA specialty crops
- Partner with the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom to develop a 16-page standards-aligned, activity-based newspaper supplement to showcase California specialty crops and improve the public's appreciation of agriculture's value to the health and well-being of all Californians; and develop a 4-page Spanish version of the supplement
- Partner with the Center for Land-Based Learning to create a beginning farmer training and incubator program for specialty crops in the Sacramento Valley through the utilization of the experience and resources of partner organizations
- Partner with the Cachuma Resource Conservation District to increase grower access to up-to-date technical information in Spanish concerning strawberry production, which will enable small/medium-acreage growers to effectively address common challenges
- Partner with the University of California at Santa Cruz to train school personnel and their partners in educational and administrative activities that support the incorporation of more fresh fruits and vegetables in school meals and snacks
- Partner with the Ecological Farming Association to increase the implementation of science-based drought-management best practices among specialty crop growers through technical seminars and field days, partner with technical experts to develop a curriculum to deliver to existing producer networks, and work with technical support entities to increase funding for and delivery of water management support services
- Provide financial assistance to small-scale specialty crop growers and farmers' market managers to participate in a statewide educational conference, which will provide skills and knowledge to be more successful and more sustainable. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the California Apple Commission to explore industry options to develop a test that objectively assesses levels of starch iodine for the release of California Granny Smith (G. Smith) apples
- Partner with the Wine Institute to compare and analyze current cleaning and sanitation practices of California wineries and food processors in order to provide information to interested parties to help facilities select methods that offer improved environmental performance

- Partner with the American Farmland Trust California to conduct focus groups with growers, commodity groups, private service providers, academics, and others with knowledge of specialty crop production to understand barriers to the adoption of Beneficial Management Practices by specialty crop growers and determine the best strategies for encouraging growers to adopt cost-effective practices that improve the environmental performance of their farming operation
- Partner with the Valley Fig Growers to enhance the competitiveness of California fig growers by contracting with a food product development firm that will assist in the development of new value-added uses for fig paste
- Partner with the University of California to work with several school districts and their regional partners to expand their procurement of local seasonal fresh produce, enhance their ability to integrate a specialty crop nutritional curriculum by providing outreach and professional development to school personnel, and assess changes in food preferences and dietary behaviors of children in participating school
- Partner with the University of California Cooperative Extension to develop best management practices for onion seed production in California that will focus on pollination ecology, iris yellow spot virus, and onion thrips control
- Partner with the Cuties Clementine Cooperation to quantify consumer tolerance for dryness in California mandarins through surveys and taste panels and test a variety of methods to identify and prevent dryness during cultivation, packing, and postharvest
- Partner with the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service to screen, study, and identify heat-tolerant lettuce and spinach varieties that can also be grown in low land cost areas of California in order to ensure the long-term future, reduce production costs, and improve the profitability and sustainability of lettuce and spinach crops
- Partner with the University of California at Davis to assess the ability of California strawberries to restore impaired insulin signaling in people with insulin resistance and the mechanisms of action for the development of preventative strategies including strawberry consumption
- Gather and document environmental stewardship efforts, including best management practices, implemented on California specialty crop farms
- Gather scientific literature findings and catalog potential strategic solutions that have been used successfully elsewhere to offset climate change impacts on specialty crops and establish a consortium to discuss and collect feedback on potential practical strategic solutions that can be used to offset future climate change impacts
- Partner with the California Farm Bureau Federation to strengthen the state's ability to respond to invasive species that damage specialty crops by leveraging a broad network of experts and stakeholder communities to draft a comprehensive list and strategic plan for the state; develop an outreach plan to increase public awareness of invasive species impacts to specialty crops; and monitor implementation progress through the first year and report to the Invasive Species Council of California
- Partner with the University of California, Berkeley to continue efforts to release and evaluate four exotic olive fruit fly parasitoids in order to improve sustainable table and oil olive management
- Partner with the University of California, Berkeley to test the area wide application of mating disruption of vine mealybug in Napa County and work in synergy with a current USDA project on GLRaV biology and ecology
- Partner with U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service to develop standardized template preparation using pathogen-infected citrus and amplification of target nucleic acid sequences in high throughput qPCR assays capable of detecting multiple pathogens in a series of single and multiplex assays
- Partner with the University of California, Riverside to evaluate the efficacy of organic pesticides for Asian Citrus Psyllid control so science-based control recommendations can be made to organic citrus growers
- Partner with U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Services to reduce or eliminate grower and packing company losses on baby leaf lettuce production from the pests downy mildew, *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *Vitians* (Xcv), and leafminers by developing resistant lettuce breeding lines and populations within three years and release these to private seed companies for distribution to growers; and generate critically needed information regarding the Xcv-lettuce pathosystem, this will increase the effectiveness of developing new resistant cultivars and lead to improved cultural control measures due to the identification of important inoculum sources
- Partner with the University of California, Davis to develop and optimize a tractor-mounted steam injection auger for soil disinfestation at individual tree sites in tree nut and stone fruit orchards
- Partner with the University of California, Davis to use sex pheromones to improve monitoring and provide an alternative control (mating disruption) for Mealy plum aphid and leaf-curl plum aphid in prunes

- Conduct laboratory efficacy trials of an anthraquinone-based repellent to minimize impacts of wild birds to the production of almonds, lettuce, melons, and ginseng
- Partner with the University of California at Davis to survey resistance ratios in olive fruit fly populations from California regions not sampled in a previous study, select a resistant olive fruit fly strain from California as a lab colony that can be used to isolate resistance-related mutations, identify mutations in the acetylcholine receptor subunits that are linked to spinosad resistance, shed light on the resistance mechanism, determine associated genetic markers that can be easily used as a molecular test for assessing frequency of the resistance alleles, and document need for additional control products
- Partner with the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers to create a science-based best management practice rating screen for nursery crops, survey existing best management practices, use the screen to identify and rank those practices with demonstrated benefits for nurseries, classify the remaining practices based on their apparent potential for benefit, make nurseries aware of the most effective practices that reduce risk of introduction or spread of existing or new invasive pests and encourage them to use those effective practices
- Prepare the Statewide Plant Pest Prevention and Management Program Environmental Impact Report based on the collection and assessment of the latest scientific data and independent research to protect of specialty crops through the control and eradication of non-native invasive species
- Purchase equipment for Plant Pest Diagnostics Center to provide scientific training in diagnostics of specialty crop pests and diseases to stakeholders
- Survey for the presence of Asian citrus psyllid and huanglongbing, determine the extent of the Asian citrus psyllid infestation, eradicate infestations, establish and enforce quarantine regulations, restrict the movement of hosts as necessary upon the detection of Asian citrus psyllid, enlist the assistance of the public through various outreach activities, and perform immediate Asian citrus psyllid/huanglongbing identification
- Partner with the Brentwood Agricultural Land Trust to develop a business plan for the ‘scaled up’ Brentwood-Richmond Farm 2 Table Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), identify efficient ways to aggregate and transport source-identified specialty crops from local producers and provide nutrition programs to CSA families
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Colorado Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$773,535.26	Number of Projects:	17
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- Partner with the Colorado Association of Viticulture and Enology to develop a plan to increase assessability for visitors and local consumers from a nearby interstate highway to the local vineyards, orchards, winery tasting rooms and other fruit and vegetable value-added businesses
- Implement a television campaign to run during the summer of 2011 aimed at encouraging consumers to "buy local." Specialty crop funding will only be used for television advertising that promotes specialty crops
- Partner with major produce associations and growers in Colorado to continue a Colorado Pavilion at the Produce Marketing Association's Fresh Summit Expo in October of 2011
- Partner with Rocky Mountain Sod Growers Association to expand online ads and click throughs to member sites that educate consumers about the benefits of sod and how the use of sod can serve to conserve water resources
- Partner with Slow Food Denver to address the lack of awareness and access to Colorado fruits and vegetables for youth in low-income neighborhoods by expanding the School Garden Program with a Youth Farmers Market model where students will set up market stands on school grounds once a week to sell fresh produce from school gardens and Colorado farms to the school community
- Partner with the Center for Systems Integration to develop phase 2 of a model for a cohesive statewide Farm to School program where schools purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables
- Partner with the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee in cooperation with Colorado State University to identify potato cultivars unique to Colorado that possess attributes beneficial to improved health and bring those potatoes to market as "branded" potatoes
- Partner with Plant Select to develop a brand awareness marketing campaign to educate the public on sustainable landscaping and gardening practices through the identification of the best local plants for western gardens

- Partner with Rio Culebra Agricultural Cooperative to develop a model for a place-based marketing plan to stimulate demand and interest for regional heirloom (bolita & hava) beans through branding and expanding distribution of the product
- Partner with the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture to provide educational materials focused on greenhouses and specialty crops including a new Colorado Reader to elementary students and teachers, an edition of "Colorado Kids" published in the Denver Post newspaper, and information to educators at the annual "Summer Agriculture Institute"
- Partner with the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee in cooperation with Colorado State University to research the efficacy of organic and conventional sprout inhibitors on Colorado potato cultivars for long-term storage
- Partner with Colorado State University to research a material that has not been used by nurseries for properties that may help nursery plants withstand Colorado's freezing winter temperatures in order to reduce crop loss
- Partner with Colorado State University (CSU) to provide continued support for a Specialty Crops Coordinator, as part of CSU's broader Specialty Crops Program, to provide small acreage, socially disadvantaged and beginning specialty crop producers benefit from cultivar and season extension, as well as access to technical support and grant funds for on-farm research and demonstration marketing projects
- Partner with the Yuma Conservation District to research the potential for the production of high-value vegetable, floral and nursery crops in eastern Colorado production systems
- Partner with the Colorado Dry Bean Administrative Committee in cooperation with Colorado State University to assess the potential of alternate classes of dry bean production systems and identify the optimal level of irrigation and most efficient water delivery system on the various classes
- Partner with Family Farmers Seed Cooperative in cooperation with the Organic Seed Alliance to develop unique varieties of specialty crop organic seed for Colorado producers and release new varieties into the public domain through a Farmer-to-Farmer marketing campaign
- Partner with New Farms in cooperation with the Arkansas Valley Organic Growers to develop a low-overhead, farmer-based specialty crops marketing and distribution system in southeastern Colorado

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$445,339.20	Number of Projects:	11
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- Procure and distribute a variety of promotional materials that identify and market the state's specialty crop industry
- Partner with the Connecticut Vineyard and Winery Association to support a two-year statewide marketing campaign to increase consumption of Connecticut's grapes and other winemaking fruits
- Partner with the Harvest New England Association to increase use of the logo by producers, wholesalers, and grocery stores through the facilitation of a conference/tradeshaw, development of the Harvest New England website, and expansion of promotional items for specialty crop produce
- Increase consumer awareness about the availability and diversity of Connecticut specialty crops in the "off growing season" by conducting a radio marketing campaign for apples, mums, pumpkins, wine, and Christmas trees
- Partner with the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut to build on its educational and communications resources to educate farmers in the best practices for growing, storing, and marketing locally-grown, organic and sustainable winter specialty crops as well as provide educational resources for consumers to determine the availability, flavor, and nutrition of those fruits, vegetables, and herbs
- Partner with the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System to hasten the adoption of deep zone tillage in Connecticut's vegetable farms through the utilization of health surveys, deep zone tillage research, and a series of outreach meetings and articles
- Partner with the University of Connecticut to evaluate several native shrub species for their suitability as replacements to invasive species used in parking lot island plantings and residential landscapes
- Partner with the Massaro Community Farm, Inc. to establish an apiary at the Massaro Farm in Woodbridge, Connecticut that will provide educational programs to the community, research opportunities for the industry, and potentially increase the pollination and production of honey in Connecticut

- Partner with the Maple Syrup Producers Association of Connecticut to test the validity of a three pronged approach to grow the Connecticut maple products industry through using sustainable forest management to increase the number of maple trees tapped, enhancing the current equipment to increase productivity, and developing a marketing model to increase traffic to retail and direct market outlets
- Partner with the Connecticut Christmas Tree Growers' Association to select the best parent trees for establishing a seed production nursery that will improve the genetics of true firs grown in Connecticut, thereby improving the competitiveness of natural Connecticut grown Christmas trees
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

University of the District of Columbia, College of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$181,210.00	Number of Projects:	4
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- Partner with Neighborhood Farm Initiative to educate youth and young adults on "green job skills", specialty crop gardening and production skills, and the benefits of incorporating specialty crops in their diets through a community garden training program
- Partner with Menare Foundation, Inc. to educate and energize District of Columbia youth around school-based gardens to plant, grow, and harvest specialty crops emphasizing heritage and history through creative, sustainable agriculture and community-building practices
- Partner with the College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) to enhance the production of specialty crops by developing a specialty crops recipe booklet, conducting small group educational sessions and surveys, and providing sustainable gardening information to schools and public institutions, and supporting the 2012 UDC/CAUSES Action Summit
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Delaware Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$251,741.11	Number of Projects:	9
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- Partner with Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association of Delaware to promote Good Agricultural Practices/Good Handling Practices farm plan development, enhance farm to school/institution business, and increase local vegetable and fruit consumption in youth and adults through workshops
- Partner with Delaware Christmas Tree Growers Association to improve practices of growing Christmas trees, promote marketing of Christmas trees, educate members on best growing practices, and educate public on benefits of growing Christmas trees
- Partner with the Southern Delaware Truck Growers Association, Inc. and Laurel Farmers' Auction Market to increase sales of specialty crops in Delaware by promoting the Laurel Farmers' Auction Market, which sells only specialty crops, to potential sellers as well as customers
- Provide students with an opportunity to grow and eat specialty crops, and to develop life skills regarding nutrition, which will result in a healthy lifestyle that includes consumption of specialty crops through school gardening and curriculum
- Partner with University of Delaware to conduct research on extending production seasons, varietal adaptation, and fresh pack legumes which would increase production and sales of fresh market vegetables
- Partner with University of Delaware Research Office to conduct evaluation of breeding material from the breeding program, investigate heat tolerance in lima beans, and investigate genetic inheritance of cyanogenic glycoside production to aid in identification of a high-yielding lima bean for commercial production
- Partner with University of Delaware to develop both field and laboratory/greenhouse screening methods to evaluate germplasm of Phaseolus lunatus for resistance to P. capsici which would benefit lima bean growers in terms of yield protection and reduced fungicide costs
- Partner with University of Delaware Department of Entomology, Applied Ecology, and Plant and Soil Sciences to develop sustainable best management practices for growers through following colony survival and growth of commercial bumble bee pollination units

- Partner with Bennett Orchards and University of Delaware Cooperative Extension to develop a highly productive and cost effective method for establishing blueberries

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Amount Awarded:	\$4,797,413.00	Number of Projects:	28
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- Partner with University of Florida to identify varieties of tomato that are less susceptible to Salmonella contamination and match them with the optimal fertilization regime; and develop a bilingual Extension outreach program, consisting of web-based and on-site modules and publications, to empower Florida farmers, producers, packers, retailers and to make science-based food safety decisions
- Partner with Florida Sweet Corn Exchange to complete a new consumer research and category management study of measurable changes in consumer attitude and awareness with retail best practices to provide retailers with actionable advice to increase fresh Supersweet corn sales
- Partner with Florida Tomato Committee to help reverse sales erosion of Florida tomatoes with existing customers while identifying opportunities to expand share in new markets through customized promotions and by leveraging electronic media and website opportunities to develop a platform that be used for meaningful exchange and outreach with retail, food service, industry and consumer audiences
- Partner with Watermelon Association, Inc. to promote Florida watermelon and inform the general public of the health and nutritious benefits of eating Florida fresh watermelon
- Partner with Florida Nursery Growers and Landscape Association to promote industry members' products and services and provide the tools needed to strengthen business practices
- Partner with University of Florida to recruit and train specialty crop growers to use Marketmaker, a web-based marketing tool designed to allow producers and consumers of specialty crops to establish relationships in local and regional markets, and to enhance sustainability of local food systems and further develop the system to include ornamental plants
- Partner with Miami-Dade County's Agricultural Manager's Office to establish a sustainable buy local program through marketing and promoting the local "Redland Raised: Fresh from Florida" brand to farmers, vendors and consumers solely focused on specialty crops and develop a "Redland Raised" specialty crop cookbook
- Partner with University of Florida to address critical specialty crop industry needs regarding food safety, risk management and direct marketing for Florida small farmers
- Partner with Florida Agriculture in the Classroom to provide mini school garden grants to complement "Gardening for Grades School Garden Resource Guide"
- Partner with National Watermelon Association to create a Spanish version of the commodity specific food safety and traceability program for the fresh watermelon supply chain
- Partner with Florida Certified Organic Growers to develop and implement eight on-farm workshops for Florida specialty crop producers that will increase specialty crop producers' knowledge about organic, whole-systems farming methods such as soil management, pest disease, weed management and USDA National Organic Program regulations
- Partner with Farm Credit of Central Florida, A.C.A. to increase specialty crop producers' knowledge of concepts related to agricultural financial management by organizing a financial management conference
- Partner with University of Florida to develop strawberry varieties that combine superior flavor with adaptation to Florida growing conditions
- Partner with the Florida Turfgrass Association, Florida Sod Growers Cooperative, and the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association to evaluate a "smart irrigation controller" in conjunction with nitrogen practices for turfgrass to demonstrate best management practices that minimize leaching and runoff, develop educational tools and a database for University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences and industry websites to educate homeowners and regulators about the environmental benefits of turfgrass
- Partner with University of Florida to identify bioactive phytochemicals in Florida honeys and measure their antioxidant and antimicrobial capacities to increase the competitiveness and notoriety of Florida honey
- Partner with University of Florida to devise strategies for specialty crop diversification and appropriate water usage for crop maintenance and freeze protection under existing protective structures in seven Florida counties; and educate specialty crop growers, stakeholders, and the general public throughout the state on the benefits of this technology

- Partner with University of Florida to work with growers throughout Central and South Florida to re-establish a stone fruit industry, using patented varieties, conduct economic analyses of orchard establishment and production costs and engage in outreach and technology transfer with industry members
- Partner with University of Florida to address key limiting factors to sustainability and profitability of low chill fruit and nut crops by conducting research on new cultivars, use of new management strategies and traditional and novel dissemination methods of outreach and marketing to small farms
- Partner with Florida A&M University to research development of molecular/biochemical markers for selecting raspberry cultivars that are adaptive to the southern U.S., and to identify gene/proteins/metabolites associated with heat tolerance and low chilling requirement
- Partner with University of Florida to develop a site-specific management program for Twospotted Spider Mites where only infested areas are treated and evaluate site specific application cost savings benefits
- Partner with Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University to establish and maintain for industry use the G1 nuclear disease free planting stock in protected environment (screen house) of single copy grapevines from 15 economically important Muscadine and American native hybrid varieties originating from in vitro meristem culture; and to work in cooperation with Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for development of the grape certification program for the State of Florida and neighboring states restricted to the Pierce's Disease zone of American viticulture
- Partner with University of Florida to improve management of citrus Huanglongbing (HLB) by overcoming the Salicylate hydroxylase, which is used by the casual agent to suppress plant defense responses
- Partner with United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service and University of Florida to further evaluate efficacy of an experimental material as a methyl bromide alternative in Florida high-value vegetable and strawberry raised-bed crop production systems currently dependent
- Partner with Florida Specialty Crop Foundation, University of Florida and Glades Crop Care to improve tomato and potato growers' ability to delay late blight disease infections and manage outbreaks economically and sustainability
- Partner with University of Florida to develop novel push-pull strategies for integrated pest management of thrips and continue improvement in the adoption of these new tactics by specialty crop producers
- Partner with University of Florida to develop protocols to protect avocado trees from laurel wilt with fungicides by facilitating sustainable management with new, disease-resistant avocado genotypes and enhancing understandings of the disease's movement and development in natural and commercial avocado settings
- Partner with University of Florida to evaluate year round specialty crop production systems, provide specialty crop farmers with a distribution system to increase sales and revenue, and develop and deliver experiential-based educational programs that provide farmers information and knowledge that can be used applied immediately
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Georgia Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$1,015,360.23	Number of Projects:	24
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- Partner with University of Georgia to validate a washing/soaking intervention method in post-harvest tomatoes as a dip/rinse treatment for reduction of E.coli 0157:h7, Listeria monocytogens and Salomonella and at the same time retain equivalent or greater shelf life of the treated tomatoes
- Partner with Georgia Watermelon Association to promote Georgia watermelons and inform the general public on the health and nutritious benefits of eating Georgia grown watermelon
- Partner with Georgia Pecan Commodity Commission to further create awareness among consumers, industry, and health influencers that Georgia Pecans are the top nut for antioxidants
- Partner with Georgia Pecan Growers Association to increase promotional and marketing efforts in the following countries which include China, India, Brazil, Canada, Israel, Spain, England and other countries in the European Union; and expand domestic promotion of pecans while assisting existing, new and beginner pecan farmers by maintaining the existing website and conducting the annual educational conference
- Partner with Vidalia Onion Committee to promote the original sweet onion in conjunction with the release of "Shrek Forever After" to include extensive produce aisle consumer materials, an in-store radio drive, an online consumer contest, and a national print and radio campaign

- Partner with Georgia Green Industry Association to determine the quantity of irrigation water usage at Georgia nurseries and encourage water stewardship; assess the recycling activities of the green industry and increase opportunities for the industry to recycle plastics; and to update the scope and economic value of the green industry in order to provide reliable data to various regulatory agencies and councils as needed to accurately forecast future long-term water demands of the green industry
- Partner with Georgia Christmas Tree Association to implement a marketing campaign to familiarize the public with Christmas trees grown locally in Georgia, develop a “Choose and Cut Christmas Tree Guide” and a “video story” of Georgia grown Christmas trees to be shown at trade shows and fairs and expos and other agriculturally related events
- Partner with Georgia Peaches Commodity Commission to continue to build market share of Georgia grown peaches in the Southeastern retail market, promote 2011 crop and regain market share against the two largest threats: California and South Carolina
- Partner with Georgia Organics to address both the supply and demand side of the local food equation to increase the supply of locally grown, sustainably produced specialty crops by providing specialty crop producer education through mechanisms including an educational conference and enhancement of online resources
- Build awareness of, and desire for, Georgia Grown specialty crops through the development and execution of the "Georgia Grown" program - a subscription program for growers and manufacturers that will promote their businesses via web, face-to-face, and traditional/social media outreach efforts
- Partner with Georgia Fruits and Vegetable Growers Association to address the need for continued education and training for Georgia and other southeastern specialty crop producers in the area of production techniques, pest management, food safety, labor practices, marketing, farm management and risk management, and to expand the marketing of Georgia produce and increase the competitiveness of Georgia products
- Partner with Emory University to build on the University’s Sustainable Food Initiative to expand public awareness, support dietary change, shift institutional purchasing practices, and increase capacity to utilize Georgia specialty crops in the home kitchen. This project is pending approval by the SCBGP
- Partner with Georgia Association of Conservation District Supervisors to enhance the competitiveness of Georgia’s honey producers by increasing the public’s awareness of the benefits of consuming locally produced honey and educating students about the best management practices to improve pollinator habitat
- Partner with Children’s Museum of Atlanta to tackle childhood obesity through the “Eat a Georgia Rainbow” program that teaches the value of eating a variety of Georgia fruits and vegetables and the many advantages to eating locally grown produce
- Partner with Ross and Company, Inc. to educate underserved children to make healthy food choices which include Georgia’s locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables
- Partner with Georgia American Chestnut Foundation to use the Backcross Method to utilize existing American trees which can be found within Georgia, and develop a hybrid tree which is highly blight resistant but maintains local genetic adaptations
- Partner with University of Georgia to develop a drying process and appropriate products for the Georgia Rabbiteye blueberries with preserved nutritional quality and high consumer acceptance. A process to produce a low calorie sweetened dried blueberries with a natural sweetener (Stevia) for diabetic and calorie conscious consumers will also be developed
- Partner with University of Georgia to develop an effective pest management method for aphids and mites on commercial pecan trees by integrating less costly biological and chemical control methods
- Partner with University of Georgia to research grower participation of biologically-based strategies for leafminer control for cut flower and greenhouse production. Phase 2 continues the project by refining cost-effective options for managing secondary pests that limit biocontrol of leafminers and further implementing and disseminating research-based recommendation
- Partner with Georgia Olive Farms to determine and study the viability of olive oil and table olive production in Georgia
- Partner with University of Georgia to determine how far South Momi fir can grow by itself or as a rootstock and use findings from this research project to determine the viability of Momi fir as a standalone Christmas tree species and as a root stock
- Partner with University of Georgia to provide essential information for the continued development of a pomegranate industry in Georgia. Pathological organisms will be identified, nutraceutical content and storability will be determined while suitable juice pressing techniques will be evaluated

- Partner with Center for Community Development to provide an alternative, more economical approach to field production for limited-resource farmers focusing on evaluating alternative specialty crops for conventional cropping and hydroponic production and their associated costs under greenhouse conditions
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Guam Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$183,112.95	Number of Projects:	1
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- Partner with University of Guam to create more disease resistant banana varieties through in vitro and making them available at a feasible cost to Guam producers to ensure continued production, production efficiency, plant health, and higher yields

Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$416,808.97	Number of Projects:	11
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- Partner with the Hawaii Coffee Association to increase awareness and consumption of Hawaiian coffees through promotion and marketing of Hawaii coffee at two major tradeshows
- Partner with Maui County Farm Bureau (MCFB) to implement a Grown on Maui program that will allow Maui farmers to sustain and maximize sales in current markets and secure new markets. The focus of the program will solely be on specialty crops
- Partner with Maui Flower Growers’ Association to increase Maui and Hawaii grown cut flower sales and market share in the U.S. market as well as build Hawaii’s floriculture industry through marketing and promotional initiatives
- Partner with 4 Ag Hawaii, Inc. to promote the “Buy Local, It Matters” branding methodology; provide cost sharing arrangements for Good Agricultural Practices certification audits; and provide for childhood and adult education initiatives of food safety and nutrition knowledge through “Buy Local, It Matters” initiatives as well as e-marketing in conjunction with the 4 Ag Hawaii website – www.4AgHawaii.org. Activities will solely focus on eligible specialty crops
- Expand diversity and coverage of specialty crops and support the ongoing state marketing program
- Partner with the University of Hawaii, Kapiolani Community College Culinary Institute of the Pacific to produce still photo images of Hawaiian specialty crops, which will include whole product and cross section views, and short instructional video clips for preparation and cooking
- Increase the sales of Hawaiian specialty crops and specialty crop products in the Japanese market by marketing these products during an international tradeshow, FOODEX Japan 2013
- Partner with University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to provide specialty crop farmers with on-farm food safety training, education, extension, outreach, and technical assistance with emphasis on high risk specialty crops
- Partner with Kokua Hawaii Foundation’s AINA in Schools Program to provide educational materials and cafeteria procurement and preparation guides highlighting Hawaii specialty crops for use by Hawaii schools participating in the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program
- Partner with Hawaii Pacific Export Council to provide information and resources to small and medium enterprises so they will have the proper tools to successfully export their specialty crops
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Idaho State Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$1,037,890.22	Number of Projects:	18
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- Partner with Snake River Table Grape Growers Association to create a comprehensive Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) certification program to promote USDA standards for food safety

- Partner with the Idaho Apple Commission to use the Cool School Café Program as a marketing tool, provide incentives for schools to purchase Idaho apples and provide nutritional and educational materials about apples to school
- Partner with Idaho Eastern Oregon Onion Committee to use Brand Points Plus as a marketing tool to encourage foodservice distributors to purchase Idaho-E Oregon onions, and provide information about them and the growing region
- Partner with Idaho Eastern Oregon Seed Association to create an education and outreach program that will enhance the broader understanding of Idaho’s specialty crop seed industry
- Partner with the Idaho Nursery & Landscape Association to support a broad-based proactive approach to eradicate the noxious weed and invasive plant crisis through the use of an educational/awareness campaign
- Partner with the Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association to promote and encourage the production, sale and use of Idaho’s specialty crop nursery products
- Increase consumer awareness and demand for Idaho fruits, vegetables, wine, herbs and nursery product through statewide television advertising
- Partner with the Oregon Department of Agriculture and Northwest Food Processors Association to create a comprehensive, industry-driven sustainability support structure to help specialty crop producers and processors design and implement company-specific sustainability plans. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Idaho Mint Commission to create updated information on mint production, as well as an updated University of Idaho Mint Fertilization Guide
- Partner with the University of Idaho to identify and study different genotypes/cultivars of modern peaches, nectarines, and pluots for tree growth and characteristics, yield, fruit quality, bloom and harvest dates, and leaf mineral nutrient uptake and efficiency under the climatic conditions of Idaho
- Partner with the University of Idaho to transform Idaho russet potato cultivars GemStar and Alturas with a modified potato NAC transcription factor and evaluate for increased tolerance to drought, salinity and disease (late blight and potato virus Y)
- Partner with the Idaho Bean Commission to develop a virus-resistant Idaho-grown, pinto bean seed for sale nationally and for export to Mexico
- Partner with Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides to increase the competitiveness of Idaho specialty crop growers by improving Potato Virus Y (PVY) control in potatoes and white mold in beans
- Partner with Dr. Ron Bitner to develop nesting products to enhance the commercial bee production of blue orchard bees to help replace lost honey bee populations
- Partner with Idaho’s Bounty to expand their online food distribution market by focusing promotion efforts on increasing the production and sales of locally grown and sustainable fresh fruits and vegetables throughout south central Idaho
- Partner with Rocky Fence Vineyard, Inc. to develop “sizing” techniques that Idaho organic table grape growers will need to implement in order to compete with California growers in the local, regional and international markets
- Partner with West Foothills TIC to document the viability of dry farmed vineyard establishment for suitable wine grape varieties in the Boise Front Foothills and encourage alternative cropping strategies when establishing vineyards where irrigation is limited
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Illinois Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$648,085.68

Number of Projects:

38

- Partner with the University of Illinois Extension to offer good agricultural practices and good handling practices training to specialty crop producers and retailers, including farmers market vendors as well as offer technical support to develop food safety plans for their specialty crop enterprises
- Support educational workshops and promotional activities that target new and existing specialty crop producers as well as consumers (including at-risk populations)

- Partner with the Peoria RiverFront Association to organize and implement a multi-media advertisement campaign to increase public awareness of the farmers market as well as the health and nutritional benefits of locally grown specialty crops
- Partner with the Carlyle Lake Chamber of Commerce to provide for advertisements and assistance with weekly educational demonstrations at a local farmers market as well as develop and distribute educational specialty crop usage handouts. Project staff will maintain records and the materials developed to ensure that the project solely enhances the competitiveness of specialty crops
- Partner with Jacksonville Main Street to increase locally grown produce and specialty crop sales and awareness with greater potential for producer income as well as provide downtown residents, low-income citizens, visitors, and workers more convenient access to healthy food products through the implementation of a multi-media advertisement campaign
- Partner with the Downtown Bloomington Association to increase awareness and sales of specialty crops at Uptown Normal's Trailside Market and the Downtown Bloomington Farmers Market through a series of television/radio/online advertisements that will focus 100% on eligible specialty crops
- Partner with the Experimental Station to create a variety of marketing materials for dissemination throughout the neighborhoods of Chicago, and provide an expansion of in-school and after-school educational outreach to local, low-income children and youth, to teach them the nutritional benefits, cultivation, and preparation of organic and sustainably grown fruits and vegetables; and provide ongoing incentives to LINK customers. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Illinois Grape Growers and Vintners Association to expand the viticulture depth of knowledge dissemination at the Illinois Grape Growers and Vintners Association's Annual Conference and Tradeshow through collaborating with neighboring state associations and communicating with experts within the field of viticulture
- Partner with Taylorville Main Street to expand the consumption of Illinois specialty crops through an extensive advertising campaign in local media, which will increase both producer participation and sales of specialty crops at the farmers market. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Mt. Carroll Chamber of Commerce to collaborate with Learn Great Foods to provide quality programs/demonstrations specific to locally grown specialty crops in order to improve child and adult nutrition knowledge and consumption of specialty crops and implement a strategic specialty crop advertising campaign that includes print and radio advertising, banners, and fliers
- Partner with Buffalo Grove Farmers Market to implement an advertising campaign in order to teach people about the nutritional benefits associated with Illinois-grown vegetables and encourage them to change their eating habits, which will foster the development of a positive perception associated with the consumption of locally grown vegetables
- Partner with Jo Daviess County to implement a marketing campaign that only advertises specialty crops at local farmers markets through printed advertising, radio advertising, billboards, and other advertising
- Partner with Batavia MainStreet to implement a professionally developed, integrated marketing campaign designed to bring awareness, education, and sales of Illinois specialty crops to Batavia, Illinois
- Partner with the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District to implement a social marketing, social media, and WIC client education campaign that promotes local specialty crop growers in the Champaign County region as well as the nutritional benefits of those crops. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Village of Lemont to increase awareness and purchases of Illinois specialty crops offered by vendors at the Lemont Farmers Market through the implementation of targeted promotional efforts. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with Downtown Springfield to supplement a current advertisement campaign with the addition of promoting individual and familial purchase of specialty crops through the utilization of Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT)
- Partner with the Knox County Food Development Council to provide education, resources, technical assistance, and market development for the local specialty crop food industry through a growers' incubator, food consolidator, advertisements for local specialty crops at farmers markets, season extension demonstrations, as well as market research into potential value-added processing of specialty crops. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with Geneva Green Market to promote their educational activities and Geneva Winter Market by creating instructional videos, a quarterly publication of news and events, website, an e-mail newsletter and newspaper and radio advertisements that solely promote specialty crops

- Partner with the Lan-Oak Park District to generate awareness of specialty crops and the District's farmers market by implementing a marketing campaign that includes the purchase of ads in local newspapers, banners, signs, and reusable shopping bags
- Partner with the Village of Schaumburg to continue an existing advertising campaign for the Olde Schaumburg Centre Farmers Market. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom to develop a new Pumpkins Ag Mag to increase awareness of the specialty crop that is grown more widely in Illinois than any other state as well as introduce more students and consumers to the ideas of locally grown foods and the farmers that grow them
- Partner with the Land Connection Foundation to implement a training program that will professionally market and educate individuals, families, communities, and the general public about the importance of specialty crops in Illinois' agricultural economies
- Partner with Esther Place to educate students and teachers at local schools about the production and preparation of specialty crops in order to help the next generation understand vital aspects of specialty crop origins and nutritional information
- Partner with the University of Illinois to facilitate the planning and launch of the Illinois Organic Growers Association and support the first year of educational and networking opportunities to Illinois specialty crop growers interested in organic and ecologically-oriented growing and marketing techniques. All project resources will be devoted to support of speakers and sessions serving organic specialty crop growers producing horticultural, fruit and nut crops using organic techniques
- Partner with the Illinois Stewardship Alliance to expand a marketing campaign to increase sales and consumption of central Illinois specialty crops and enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops by providing product differentiation and product identification through an educational directory of producers, point-of-sale identification of local products, farmer profiles, and a series of events providing increased marketing opportunities for specialty crop producers
- Partner with Annie's Project to provide farm women educational opportunities that will help them utilize small acre resources through the addition or expansion of specialty crop commodities to their production and marketing practices
- Partner with the Land of Goshen Community Market to create a "Market Sprouts" programs targeting customer children by providing activities promoting fresh, locally grown specialty crops in a centrally located area
- Partner with Chicago Defender Charities to educate the youth in the Englewood community by utilizing the Heritage Garden to produce vegetables and teach residents the importance of nutrition and healthy eating habits through meal planning that is inclusive of vegetables in their daily diet, and disseminate information regarding the benefits of embracing the green concepts of reduce, reuse and recycle and of eating locally grown produce
- Partner with the Illinois Specialty Crop Growers Association to facilitate a conference in order to educate specialty crop producers in the management of their production and price risk, the development of food safety practices including good agricultural practices and good handling practices, the notification of consumers concerning the nutritional benefits of specialty crops for children and adults as well as buy-local campaigns, on disease and pest management control, as well as information concerning the production and marketing of organic produce
- Partner with Southern Illinois University in Carbondale to implement a farm-to-school program whereby fresh fruits and vegetables will be processed during the summer months for a local school in an area that does not have a year-round growing season. Program results will be utilized to develop a case-study approach to working with interested school foodservice directors
- Partner with the University of Illinois to conduct research, demonstrations, and deliver educational programs on varieties, production practices, and pest management for tomatoes, peppers, and salad greens grown in high tunnels
- Partner with Southern Sisters Spirits to define grapes which are the "Southern Stars" for growers, winemakers, distillers, food manufacturers, and others and develop in concert with them through the Shawnee Hills Winegrape Association a public education campaign showing how these grapes are local, sustainable, value-added, and are economically and culturally rewarding
- Partner with Southern Illinois University to develop practical management strategies that increase the sustainability of Illinois wine grape production
- Partner with the National Agricultural Statistics Service Illinois Field Office to conduct a 2010 Specialty Crops survey of roughly 3,000 specialty crop growers in order to assist in an estimation of the growth of the specialty crop industry in Illinois
- Partner with Mills Apple Farm to develop a demonstration sweet cherry orchard in Illinois using slanted and trellised trees grown in high tunnels, which will be used to provide valuable information to interested producers in southwestern Illinois

- Partner with FamilyFarmed.org to create a business plan for a pack house located in Central Illinois that aggregates, stores, markets, and distributes specialty crop products from area farms to Illinois wholesale buyers, and to establish a network of Illinois fruit and vegetable growers committed to scaling up production for this market
- Partner with Central Illinois Agricultural Research Farms to develop and refine a vegetable production system that is sustainable and organic by documenting and recording all the costs, labor, profits, and procedures for organic vegetable production
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Indiana State Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$399,796.45	Number of Projects:	14
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- Partner with Knox County Growers Association to assist growers in developing and implementing industry recommended good handling practices to enhance food safety and ultimately bring greater value to Indiana produce
- Implement a cost-share reimbursement program to provide advertising, displays, and promotional material grants to Indiana farmers' markets to use imagery of fruits and vegetables in their advertising, displays, and promotional materials to ensure specialty crops are receiving the full amount of attention
- Partner with Indiana Farm Direct to produce an online database of Indiana specialty crop growers to link Hoosier consumers with Hoosier producers
- Partner with Illiana Watermelon Association Inc. to increase consumption, provide information on nutritional value of watermelons, and help boost watermelon production on small family farms
- Partner with The Heads Up Foundation and Burton Maplewood Farms to promote Indiana produced syrup through radio advertisements and a festival as well as create relationships with wholesale syrup buyers
- Partner with Indy Wine Trail to reach out to consumers through a multi-media campaign to help market the 40 wineries of Indiana and specifically the seven wineries that are on the wine trail
- Partner with Indiana Wine Grape Council to market the signature grape of Indiana, Traminette, through radio promotions, print ads, and television promotions
- Partner with Indiana Humanities Council to create a day-long event that promotes 75 specialty crops as fresh, local, and high quality through involving local restaurants to highlight their fresh specialty crop menu options in a large scale open to the public event
- Partner with Hoosier Organic Marketing Education to help train and market 150 organic and non-organic fruit and vegetable growers to build skills of growers to help them meet the needs of wholesale growers
- Partner with Purdue University to develop and deliver educational programs on food safety for fresh fruits and vegetables to producers to help them meet the market expectations for good agricultural practices and good handling practices
- Partner with Purdue Extension educators to complete a fungicide research study to control foliar disease on cucurbits in organic vegetable production and present the data at growers meetings
- Partner with Indiana State Beekeepers Association to research on the increased occurrence of Varroa mites within beehives in hopes to produce a northern-bred queen that is more resistant to mites and diseases
- Partner with Indiana Flower Growers Association to re-establish and enhance the cut flower industry and market in Indiana through high tunnel production and providing easily accessible yield and quality information for producers
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Amount Awarded:	\$276,310.76	Number of Projects:	16
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- Partner with the Iowa State Horticulture Society to expand and improve the educational programs and increase the marketing and promotion of the All-Iowa Horticulture Exposition

- Partner with Iowa Lakes Resource Conservation and Development to provide a Project Manager to work with a newly forming cooperative of local fruit and vegetable growers, and with governmental, institutional, school, nonprofit and business partners to develop consumer and school education programs, as well as direct marketing tools, including a grower coop website
- Partner with Mississippi Valley Growers Association to solely promote specialty crops through commercials to help increase farmers market attendance and bring more customers
- Promote a farm-to-school program that will promote food safety and offer the “Wrap Your Own Iowa Grown” initiative to help bridge the gap between specialty crop growers and local schools
- Partner with Geode Resource Conservation Development, Inc. to connect specialty crop growers with schools and institutions to help expand the local food market
- Partner with Iowa State University Dining to identify specialty crop farmers that are willing to sell to and produce for Iowa State Dining and develop on-line toolkits and workshops to benefit these farmers through Good Agricultural Practices/Good Handling Practices education and training
- Partner with Pathfinders Resource Conservation & Development to conduct a two-day workshop on horticulture production in high tunnels, business development, and marketing
- Partner with Practical Farmers of Iowa to create a Community Supported Agriculture Mini-School, workshop on “Members as Partners”, and Community Supported Agriculture Distribution Webinar led by specialty crop farmer experts to equip specialty crop farmers with knowledge to create quality, sustainable community supported agriculture
- Partner with Iowa Nursery and Landscape to provide education and professional development opportunities to enhance knowledge through five webinar series and a shade tree short course
- Partner with Iowa Christmas Tree Growers Association to educate growers through meetings to help improve the growers operations
- Partner with Northeast Iowa Food and Farm Coalition to certify food safety coaches in Good Agricultural Practices so they can educate farmers across the state
- Partner with Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development Area Inc. to identify a unique chemical marker for the Aronia berry industry to determine the presence and concentration of Aronia Berry in products
- Partner with Iowa Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association to determine optimal crop load and test validity of organic-approved fruit thinning agents
- Partner with Iowa State University to create an enterprise budgeting tool to help growers estimate the costs and revenues associated with high tunnel vegetable production, either as a single crop or multi-crop system
- Partner with Iowa Valley Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. to develop a self-supporting, direct-to-consumer distribution system by June 2011. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Kansas Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$282,828.14

Number of Projects:

5

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- Partner with Kansas Rural Center to assist six farmers markets in developing electronic benefit transfer capacity in 2011. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
 - Partner with Kansas Rural Center to solely focus on building relationships between Kansas specialty crop producers, food businesses, and consumers through a locally grown branding tool to increase sales of specialty crops
 - Partner with Glacial Hills Resource Conservation and Development Council to educate individuals on how to properly grow, prepare, and preserve fruits and vegetables
 - Partner with Highland Community College to offer in-the-field extension services to vineyards and wineries in Kansas
 - Partner with Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education to provide technical and educational support to K-12 Kansas schools in planting a school fruit and vegetable garden and tying lessons learned from the garden into classroom curriculum

Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$273,262.60

Number of Projects:

7

- Partner with Kentucky Nursery and Landscape Association to allow Kentucky growers the opportunity to market products at a local, regional, and national marketplace as well as receive expert advice from the education conference
- Partner with University of Kentucky to create and disseminate recipe cards focusing on specialty crops for producers to use at farmers markets to help market their crops
- Partner with University of Kentucky to assess the effectiveness of organically-certified techniques and materials on the post-harvest cold storage life of the fruit over three years
- Partner with University of Kentucky to construct high tunnels in an effort to obtain important data on crop rotation that enhance food security and develop low input fertility regimes that enhance soil and environmental quality
- Partner with University of Kentucky to help farmers diversify their crops by running trials on persimmon suitability in the state
- Partner with University of Kentucky to investigate asparagus production possibilities to help farmers produce an early crop and diversify their enterprise
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry

Amount Awarded:

\$353,448.31

Number of Projects:

6

- Provide Louisiana farms the ability to connect with the consumer and have their product recognized as a local product through statewide branding, education, and promotion efforts that encourage consumers to buy fresh local specialty crop products within the state. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Louisiana Pecan Growers Association to increase public awareness of the high quality and nutritional value of Louisiana pecans through an educational marketing campaign, which consists of a variety of advertising tools including billboards and pamphlets
- Partner with the Louisiana State University AgCenter to expand the AgMagic program through the development and distribution of education materials to school groups and the general public that focus on the consumption and growth of Louisiana specialty crops
- Partner with Louisiana State University AgCenter to compare the efficacy of foliar applications of a variety of new phosphites on pecan scab to a commonly used conventional fungicide and to determine if soil applications of these phosphites provide any protection against pecan scab infection
- Partner with the Louisiana State University AgCenter to perform a comprehensive evaluation of labeled herbicides for use in leading commercial cultivar production systems to maximize sweet potato yield and quality and evaluate plant spacing effects on weed management strategies to optimize production for fresh market and processing sectors of the sweet potato industry
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry

Amount Awarded:

\$420,878.14

Number of Projects:

12

- Partner with the Maine Potato Board to hire a consultant to assist table stock potato packers in developing food safety programs to comply with the Safe Quality Food Program, while addressing Good Agricultural Practices, Good Handling Practices and Good Manufacturing Practices
- Partner with AgMatters, LLC to provide Good Agricultural Practice certification preparation to 40 specialty crop farms

- Partner with the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association to continue to develop protocols that will provide outside verification of food safety plans for organic fruits and vegetables and provide at least one day long workshop that is focused on the establishment of an efficient packing area that meets the FDA's food safety concerns
- Partner with Down East Business Alliance to increase child and adult nutrition knowledge and consumption of specialty crops by encouraging use of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits at farmers' markets in Maine through advertising. Matching funds will be provided by farmers to support marketing of non-specialty crops they might sell
- Partner with the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine to increase demand and consumption of wild blueberries by communicating the fruit's health and nutritional benefits to adults and children nationwide through a Food Page Feature, a Satellite Media Tour, and a National Radio Public Service Announcement campaign
- Partner with Cultivating Community to increase farmers' and customers understanding of and participation in federal nutrition programs and increase specialty crop purchases and consumption by federal nutrition clients at farmers markets. The farmer education and consumer marketing campaign will focus on and promote only Maine-grown specialty crops to recipients of public benefits
- Partner with the Maine Potato Board to conduct a potato promotional campaign that will air on two television stations in the southern Maine market during the months of November and December in order to increase the sales of Maine potatoes during the holiday season
- Partner with the Harvest New England Association to increase use of the logo by producers, wholesalers, and grocery stores through the facilitation of a conference/tradeshaw, development of the Harvest New England website, and expansion of promotional items for specialty crop produce
- Partner with the Maine Potato Board to educate potato producers of current precision agricultural technology and practices, which will help potato producers become more sustainable
- Partner with the Maine Potato Board to provide the Maine potato industry with information to help determine the feasibility of replacing the post harvest winter grow-out test with a post harvest lab test
- Partner with the Maine Potato Board to develop and select new potato varieties, which will provide opportunities to the Maine potato industry
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$432,766.90

Number of Projects:

10

- Partner with Crossroads Farmers Market to increase specialty crop sales to low-income populations in Maryland Communities through outreach and marketing campaign promoting usage of the new WIC Fruit and Vegetable Checks at farmers markets, particularly those offering double value coupons for eligible clients
- Partner with Hoopla, Inc. to create a one-hour documentary film focusing on Maryland's top chefs and farmers and will use their restaurants and farms to demonstrate changes in the food economy. Other funding will be used to cover portions of the documentary not devoted to specialty crops
- Partner with Maryland Christmas Tree Association to run a state wide marketing program, which includes media ads and website updates promoting real trees and where to get them
- Create, develop, promote and manage four new public events in 2011 featuring Maryland wine and specialty crops focusing on regionality and seasonality. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Improve the Maryland's Best website (www.marylandsbest.net) to include a mobile friendly interface, streamlined online user interface for consumers and site administrators, addition of reporting features, and other programmatic or design changes for the website as appropriate. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with Maryland Agricultural Resource Council to help a new generation of specialty crop farmers gain experience and entry to farmable land
- Partner with the University of Maryland for a position dedicated to providing the training and individual technical assistance in writing and implementing Good Agricultural Plans to fresh fruit and vegetable producers

- Partner with Barr-Net Inc. to develop and market biodegradable plastic resin formulations for the nursery, greenhouse, and landscaping industry to reduce the use of petroleum based netting and wrapping materials in both the sod production system and in the landscape
- Establish a voluntary statewide database containing specific information on specialty crops produced in Maryland that will provide pesticide applicators with the ability to search for, locate and identify any specialty crops in areas where they will be making pesticide applications so care can be taken to protect specialty crops from harmful pesticide exposure
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources

Amount Awarded:	\$502,944.14	Number of Projects:	14
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- Partner with the Massachusetts Maple Producers Association to conduct targeted advertising that will help the maple industry in Massachusetts increase direct farm-to-consumer sales of their products
- Partner with Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture to increase the purchase and consumption of specialty crops by children and adults across the Commonwealth through a media campaign; winter markets; promotion of specialty crops to schools; the development of seasonal shopping lists, nutritional information, and recipes; canning and preserving workshops; and events that feature local specialty crops
- Partner with the Harvest New England Association to increase use of the logo by producers, wholesalers, and grocery stores through the facilitation of a conference/tradeshaw, development of the Harvest New England website, and expansion of promotional items for specialty crop produce
- Partner with the Federation of Massachusetts Farmers Markets to increase purchases and consumption of all specialty crops typically grown in MA to underserved communities by expanding and enhancing operational efficiency of the 2010 Wholesome Wave and Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources “veggie prescription” project
- Partner with the Food Project to promote the consumption and direct sales of fresh, local specialty crops to low-income consumers in Boston through the targeted distribution of coupons through community cooking and nutrition classes
- Further the recruitment campaign for its Commonwealth Quality Program for specialty crop growers who maintain existing Best Management Practices, food safety procedures and environmental and sustainability standards as well as develop a more elaborate consumer campaign that will truly expose consumers and growers to this exciting specialty crops program
- Partner with New England Small Farm Institute to increase production and consumption of locally grown specialty fruit and nut crops by demonstrating, teaching and promoting innovative production techniques - such as agroforestry - and marketing methods
- Partner with Massachusetts Farm Bureau Agricultural Preservation Corporation to educate Massachusetts wholesaling farm operations about the potential benefits of direct or indirect specialty crop sales to schools and other institutions; urge institutional customers to insist upon local foods product integrity from distributors; and explore opportunities for increasing the volume of specialty crops available to meet increased demand
- Partner with the Massachusetts Farm Bureau Agricultural Preservation Corporation to pilot the first Massachusetts Kindergarten Initiative, which will bring school food personnel, farmers, students, and families together to help young students gain firsthand knowledge of where their specialty crops comes from and the varieties of flavors that local specialty crops affords
- Develop and implement USDA Good Agricultural Practices for Massachusetts fruit and vegetable specialty crop growers, packers and processors via training, farm plan development and audit preparation to enhance food safety
- Partner with the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers Association to assess water quality conditions in pond and lakes connected to cranberry bogs in anticipation of Total Maximum Daily Load Regulations per the Clean Water Act
- Partner with the University of Massachusetts to mitigate the future impact of late blight of potato and tomato by the destructive Oomycete pathogen, *Phytophthora infestans*
- Partner with Vermont Agency of Agriculture Foods and Markets to work with the University of Vermont Extension to bring commercial scale production of hops back to New England
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Amount Awarded:

\$1,415,489.62

Number of Projects:

31

- Work with Michigan Cherry Committee, Michigan Bean Commission, and other specialty crop commodity groups to secure booth space at major domestic and international trade shows, as well as conduct a trade mission to the Caribbean
- Secure booth space at trade shows in Michigan for specialty crop commodity groups to promote their products to Michigan retail and food service industries
- Raise awareness of the benefits of the Culinary Tourism promotion around the state and engage more Michigan restaurants in supporting local specialty crop producers
- Partner with National Grape Cooperative Association, Inc. to provide Michigan grape industries with additional resources needed to implement the Grape*A*Syst program with Michigan grape growers, increase grower interest for becoming Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) verified, and enhance the competitiveness of Michigan's grape industries
- Partner with Michigan Asparagus Industry Development Program to conduct radio advertising to increase sales of fresh Michigan asparagus to compensate for a shrinking processed market and improve net grower returns for deliveries to the fresh market
- Partner with Michigan Apple Committee to promote locally grown Michigan apples in Greater Chicago to raise awareness and grow market share
- Partner with Michigan Festivals and Events Association to promote the Michigan Wine Trails through a targeted billboard campaign during the peak summer and early fall of 2011
- Partner with the Michigan Restaurant Association and Michigan Brewers Guild, Inc. to form an Advisory Board of experts, conduct an analysis of experts' strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, tactics and with these results develop a strategic plan for creating multiple task forces and symposiums to promote the growth of Michigan's specialty crop hops
- Partner with Michigan Floriculture Growers Council to develop and disseminate a greenhouse energy booklet that contains practical strategies that can lower energy costs and have a reasonable return on investment for the Michigan floriculture industry
- Partner with the Cherry Marketing Institute to conduct an interactive/social marketing initiative to drive broad consumer appeal of cherries, increase awareness of tart cherries and their benefits, and build advocates for the Michigan tart cherry industry to serve as ambassadors for the messages
- Promote Michigan's specialty crops more fully by updating promotional materials such as brochures and banners for use at trade shows and other specialty crop events
- Partner with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Food and Dairy Division to revise the "Growing Michigan's Future: A Guide to Marketing Your Michigan Food and Agriculture Products" marketing guide to incorporate new Michigan food regulatory laws that impact Michigan specialty crops
- Lay the groundwork for the entry of Michigan wine into new domestic and international markets by researching new opportunities and contributing collected data to a newly developed mobile application "America's Wine Trails" and to Travel Michigan's new trip itinerary feature
- Partner with The Starting Block Inc. to provide food safety, Good Handling Practices and traceback training for start-up specialty food entrepreneurs and larger existing specialty crop processors, distributors, and brokers
- Partner with Michigan Processing Apple Growers Division of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association to provide food safety education and training to asparagus, cherry, peach and apple growers and help them prepare for a Good Agricultural Practices audit with proper recordkeeping documents
- Partner with MBG Marketing Michigan Blueberry Advisory Committee to host blueberry grower education and training sessions on child labor issues, best practices in seasonal labor management and overall social responsibility
- Partner with Michigan Food and Farming Systems to teach specialty crop producers to implement food safety plans on their farms and prepare for food safety audits their buyers may require
- Partner with the Food Export Association of the Midwest and Van Andel Global Trade Center to help Michigan specialty crop companies add value to their products through exporting by conducting a seminar for them discussing entry into Central American markets

- Support the continued growth of the Michigan wine industry by providing a discount to Michigan commercial wine grape growers, winemakers, and assistant winemakers to participate in the International Symposium on Sparkling Wine in Traverse City, Michigan in July 2012
- Partner with Lakeshore Environmental, Inc. to conduct a feasibility study of freeze crystallization wastewater treatment systems for Michigan fruit and vegetable processors
- Partner with Michigan State University to update research plantings to reflect modern and future horticultural systems and agricultural technology for Michigan’s fruit producers
- Partner with Smeltzer Companies to study the effectiveness of passive soil aeration under actual field conditions for the treatment of fruit and vegetable processing wastewater
- Partner with Michigan State University to assess the impact of overhead and sub-surface drip irrigation systems on yield of asparagus, evaluate the impact of irrigation and living mulches on weed management, soil quality and asparagus yields, and estimate the economic costs and benefits of asparagus irrigation system
- Partner with Michigan State University to evaluate the effects of poplar tree growth on metal mobility and wastewater treatment under land application conditions in both column and field studies to demonstrate the technology while developing a design tool to provide specialty crop processors with site-specific design recommendation and cost estimates
- Partner with the Michigan Bean Commission to assess the potential for adoption and use of ‘narrow row technology’ by Michigan dry bean growers
- Partner with the Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA) to research the barriers that prevent specialty crop producers from accepting food assistance benefits by exploring the challenges and barriers to accepting SNAP and food assistance benefits from the perspectives of specialty crop producers and market managers and by identifying any geographic gaps in Michigan farmers markets accepting SNAP and by identifying opportunities for targeted expansion
- Partner with Michigan Potato Industry Commission to research soil fumigation treatment rates and injection depths on potato acreage against non-treated control plots to develop recommendations for fumigation and develop educational materials for growers “Michigan Soil Fumigation Handbook” and “Potato Nematode Field Guide”
- Partner with Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association to evaluate new weed control methods that are effective, economical and have reduced environmental impact and to provide access to the latest herbicides and up-to-date practices and systems
- Partner with Michigan State University to develop and deliver a comprehensive monitoring, management, and education program for Spotted Wing Drosophila in at-risk Michigan fruit crops
- Partner with Fair Food Network and Eastern Market Corporation (EMC), with support from Michigan State University Product Center (MSUPC) to lead a project to assist Michigan specialty crop producers, processors, and distributors to identify new opportunities for Michigan-grown fresh and minimally processed products, identify regional packers/distributors that have the desire to source locally, and establish an effective council of producers and processors to build and maintain a sustainable supply chain in this region
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$802,718.55

Number of Projects:

13

- Partner with Rural Advantage to assist hazelnut and small fruit growers with direct sales, new vegetable and fruit growers with the development of a local farm to cafeteria network in the Martin County, MN area
- Partner with Minnesota Grown Promotion Group, Inc. to assist Minnesota specialty crop producers by enhancing Minnesota’s buy local campaign for specialty crops in the Minnesota Grown Program through improvements to the on-line database of fruit and vegetable growers selling to wholesale markets, improvements to the on-line Minnesota Grown Directory and pay-per-click advertising campaign, and development of new point-of-sale materials to identify and promote local fruits and vegetables in grocery stores and food service establishments. Because improvements to the online Directory benefit non-specialty crop producers, the Minnesota Grown Promotion Group will provide matching funds to pay for no less than 25% of the project costs

- Partner with Lanesboro Local, Inc. to expand opportunities for local specialty crop businesses in Lanesboro by creating year round markets, developing a business model that ensures success of the Marketplace, and to assist and nurture producers to become licensed to process specialty foods for added value and year round sales. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy to create new opportunities for Minnesota growers of fresh fruits and vegetables by expanding small farmers markets in Minneapolis that can provide a valued selling opportunity for immigrant and beginning direct market farmers and in daycare facilities serving low-income children
- Partner with the Minnesota Farmers' Market Association to expand adoption of Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) at 8 farmers' markets and provide regional educational workshops to strengthen the markets. Contracts will be in place requiring vendors to accept EBT tokens only for the purchase of eligible specialty crops and topics at the educational sessions will be directed towards specialty crops
- Partner with Renewing the Countryside to conduct "Got Local?" farmer-buyer networking workshops to expand opportunities for specialty crop producers to direct market Minnesota Grown specialty crops to institutional buyers
- Partner with the Sustainable Agriculture, Ag Development and Financial Assistance Division, Minnesota Department of Agriculture to provide growers of apples, berries, grapes, fresh market mixed vegetables, pumpkins, and fresh market sweet corn farm business management education programs offered by the Minnesota State College and University system. In return, participants will provide their data for inclusion in a farm financial database to increase the body of knowledge available regarding their true enterprise costs (production and profitability)
- Partner with the Minnesota Food Association to develop and grow ten immigrant farms by providing training for new immigrant farmers in sustainable vegetable production and marketing, good agricultural practices, and organic certification
- Partner with the Minnesota Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association to increase Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) adoption through regional grower training
- Partner with the Minnesota Food Association, the US Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, the US Department of Agriculture NRCS, and the Association for the Advancement of Hmong Women in Minnesota to increase the number of specialty crop immigrant and socially-disadvantaged farmers participating in sharing knowledge and accessing networking opportunities by supporting their participation in the 7th Annual Immigrant and Minority Farmers Conference
- Partner with the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service to research the impact of biochar additions on specialty crop production on crop producers both in Minnesota and Illinois
- Partner with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture and the University of Minnesota to help develop nitrogen management practices in Minnesota and North Dakota to reduce Acrylamide levels in processed potato producers
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

Amount Awarded:

\$293,555.29

Number of Projects:

14

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- Partner with Mississippi Sweet Potato Council to continue to enhance the marketing/promotion of Mississippi sweet potatoes and to enhance food safety by educating growers and packers concerning Good Agricultural Practices and Good Handling Practices including auditing some sweet potato packing facilities
 - Partner with Farm Families of Mississippi to develop and implement a promotional campaign that educates the public about the benefits of buying and consuming locally-grown and produced specialty crops
 - Partner with Mississippi State University to provide workshops on high tunnel construction to be used to grow specialty crops for demonstration and outreach purposes
 - Partner with Mississippi Beekeepers Association to conduct educational workshops on starting beehives
 - Partner with Mississippi Coastal Plains Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. to conduct workshops for rural specialty crop producers in the areas of specialty crop production, marketing, processing and financial management
 - Partner with the Mississippi Office of the Attorney General in conjunction with Oakley Training School to implement a garden project for juveniles incarcerated at Oakley Training School

- Increase awareness of Mississippi grown specialty crops by promoting butterbeans, sweet potatoes, blueberries, collard greens, southern peas, eggplants, grape tomatoes, cucumbers, strawberries, and bell peppers during Farm to School week and testing students' awareness
- Partner with Mississippi State University-Extension Service to evaluate critical aspects of blueberry production under high tunnel growing conditions
- Partner with Mississippi State University to research the feasibility of establishing mint as a specialty crop in Mississippi
- Partner with Mississippi State University to investigate the potential of using cover crops to optimize crop production, soil health, and profit in high tunnels
- Partner with Mississippi State University to integrate host plant resistance and biological control into poinsettia production to manage Pythium Root Rot
- Partner with Mississippi State University to evaluate soil nutrient uptake by rabbiteye blueberries inoculated with Ericoid Mychorizal Fungi and determine blueberry fruit quality, and economic costs and returns associated with such a production system
- Partner with Mississippi Beekeepers Association to provide a cost share program to assist beekeepers in establishing hives of honeybees
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Missouri Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$342,960.19	Number of Projects:	14
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- Partner with Columbia Farmers' Market to secure a new location that can provide space for 25-30 vendors; organize workshops and farm tours to provide winter specialty crop vendors with knowledge on season extension production and post-harvest handling so they can scale up their production; and promote the winter market to consumers, including an underserved population, via targeted radio advertising and a community wide dinner, "Consumers Kick-Off for Winter Eating". Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with Catholic Charities of St. Louis (Father Tolton Center & Midtown Center) to promote City Greens farmers markets in underserved neighborhoods in St. Louis; provide "bonus incentive" SNAP vouchers to be used solely for specialty crops; and provide nutrition education. All marketing and education materials will focus on specialty crops
- Partner with Webb City Farmers' Market to develop and distribute regional farmers market video segments and websites/social media that will encourage healthy eating habits for both adults and children and increase consumer awareness of fresh, local specialty crops available at local farmers markets; and educate students on the importance of eating healthy with a lesson plan, based on the 5 a Day Program, that will be made available nationwide
- Educate specialty crop growers on how to build and use a mobile flash freezing technology in collaboration with University of Missouri Extension and the Missouri State University Fruit Experiment Station
- Partner with the University of Missouri to assess the impacts of row orientation and canopy management practices on Norton grapes in three regionally distinct Norton vineyards in Missouri through canopy architecture assessment and point quadrant analysis
- Partner with Mineral Area Community College to educate agribusiness and horticulture students about best practices in sustainable agriculture of specialty vegetable crops through high tunnel production
- Partner with Thomas Jefferson Agricultural Institution to provide producers with field training sessions to learn about cultivar performance, potential profitability, and direct marketing options on several types of locally produced specialty crops and conduct public outreach efforts of specialty crops
- Partner with Gateway Greening, Inc. to teach urban agriculture and horticultural skills to St. Patrick Center homeless and dually diagnosed individuals focusing on safe food production in an urban environment; seedling development and season extension techniques, pest and disease management; highlight how to harvest, package and preserve crops for sale; increase communication skills on how to interact with consumers; and to conduct a successful farm
- Partner with the University of Missouri to determine if 'Health Kick' high lycopene tomato scions grafted onto 'Trooper' tomato rootstock are more disease resistant and produce a higher yield than ungrafted 'Health Kick' plants when grown in a high tunnel; and to communicate the results of this study to Missouri tomato producers, Master Gardeners, Extension staff, and homeowners

- Partner with the University of Missouri to conduct research on the effects of eriophyid mites and viruses on elderberry
- Partner with the University of Missouri to study methods to disinfest gall wasp larvae on chestnut trees to produce a clean source of nursery stock
- Partner with the River Hills Elderberry Producers to formalize research for the mechanical harvesting system through material cost list and engineered drawing phases; research and write a manual on adding value to elderberries; host the second comprehensive elderberry workshop and farm tour; purchase advertising in rural publications to promote workshop attendance; and exhibit at farm shows and conferences to promote grower interest
- Partner with Truman State University to contract with its institutional food service provider to coordinate production, procurement, and delivery of locally grown fruits and vegetables to campus dining services
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Montana Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$292,954.57	Number of Projects:	7
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- Partner with Montana State University to investigate the agronomic drivers of nutritional content in vegetable crops and develop produce marketing tools based on nutritional quality
- Partner with Lake County Community Development Food and Ag Center and the Mission Mountain Food Enterprise Processing Facility to increase the farm to institution market opportunities for western MT specialty crop producers through value added processing and cooperative purchasing; collaborate with Oregon State University Food Innovation Center to create the Montana lentil burger alternative for the institutional marketplace; develop a web-based specialty crop recipe resource; and launch a Buy Fresh Buy Local Farm to Institution market campaign to outreach and communicate the results of the recipe tastings and the lentil burger
- Partner with the Central Agricultural Research Center at Montana State University to evaluate disease resistance and quality of dry beans and peas in Montana soil and climate conditions
- Partner with Montana State University to adopt real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) for the testing of potato pathogens and develop a more economical method of micro/mini-tuber production, and improve the size profile and quality
- Provide support that will offset the increasing costs of the USDA APHIS PPQ Phytosanitary Export Certification Program, while other methods of covering costs are explored
- Partner with Montana State University to introduce Camelina Sativa to the sprout industry to revitalize the industry
- Partner with Montana State University Agriculture Extension to establish research trials that test six new varieties of sweet cherries on Flathead Lake

Nebraska State Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$353,970.92	Number of Projects:	16
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- Partner with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to enable specialty crop entrepreneurs to expand their exposure and increase their profitability through the Siouxland Garden Show held in South Sioux City, Nebraska
- Partner with Old Cheney Road Farmers Market to provide specialty crop nutrition and health outreach and education to current and future customers who shop at Lincoln farmers markets. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society to facilitate a series of workshops, webinars, and trainings that increase specialty crop producer knowledge concerning high tunnels and hoop houses, which will increase the number of producers in Nebraska that utilize season extension technologies
- Partner with Community CROPS to provide educational opportunities that are derived from first-hand experience to youth to develop skills involved with planning, growing, and selling specialty crops
- Partner with Legal Aid of Nebraska to provide education and outreach on the development of community farms and farmers markets, the development of Farm-to-School programs—both within the Tribal areas and in Northeast Nebraska—as well as financial, legal, and operational planning for specialty crop production and marketing

- Partner with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to determine the antioxidative properties of split beans (both Great Northern and Pinto) compared to their whole bean counterparts using a model cellular system
- Partner with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to determine periods during potato production in which limited irrigation would least impact market yield of potatoes in order to promote a better understanding of water and nitrogen interaction on market yield of potatoes in Nebraska's semi-arid environment
- Partner with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to determine and recommend cultivars of strawberries that produce the greatest yield during the whole growing season and have the best health-promoting phytochemicals as well as validate a greenhouse and crop energy balance model with the goal of reducing and optimizing night heating costs while maintaining optimal plant tissue temperature and supplying photosynthetically-active-radiation to the crop
- Partner with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to investigate the antioxidant constituents and concentrations in the different components of hybrid hazelnut by products (hard shell, green leafy husks, and leaves) using different extraction processes and to assess their antioxidant and antiradical activities
- Collaborate with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to acquire a noodle machine to conduct research, which will demonstrate the feasibility of improving nutritional value and quality of instant noodles using Nebraska-produced dry-edible beans
- Partner with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to identify sources of bacterial brown spot resistance in both U.S. and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture's dry bean core collections and transfer those sources of resistance into the dry bean lines
- Partner with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to examine the relative disease susceptibility of six cultivars of grapevine at two climatically different sites: humid (eastern Nebraska) and semi-arid (western Nebraska)
- Conduct a comprehensive survey of nursery dealers and growers to determine the presence or absence of Japanese beetle populations in order to ascertain in information to determine eligibility for the Japanese beetle certification
- Conduct a coordinated, comprehensive survey for Columbia Root Knot Nematode in Nebraska, which will facilitate the trade of Nebraska-grown potatoes and horticultural nursery stock on the international market by documenting Nebraska's pest-free status
- Continue the identification and inclusion of additional specialty crops in a previously developed website that lists the locations of Nebraska vineyards and specialty crop farms in order to raise awareness of non-traditional agriculture crops in the mind of pesticide applicators, reduce the potential for crop injury and subsequent economic harm, and reduce the number of pesticide complaints involving specialty crops requiring the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to investigate
- Partner with the University Nebraska at Lincoln to evaluate the success of hybrid hazelnut propagation techniques suitable for large scale multiplication of hybrid hazelnut cultivars and propagate plant material for further field evaluations to determine the adaptability and durability of propagated hybrid hazelnut varieties in field production systems across Nebraska

Nevada Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$231,060.95

Number of Projects:

9

- Partner with Nevada Grown Association to create a new website with detailed information regarding specialty crop growers including profile pictures, production site, and information on the history of the farm. Producers will be trained on how to utilize the website to promote sales and provide interaction with consumers
- Partner with Fallon Convention & Tourism Authority, Tractors & Truffles to promote the event hosted by small farmers with the intent to bring consumers in touch with local specialty crop producers and to educate the public on how their food is being produced
- Partner with Western Nevada College Specialty Crop Institute to expand training provided for individuals interested in specialty crop farming to include proper record keeping and business management, a workshop on marketing and sales, and outreach to rural areas to introduce hoop house production and season expansion practices
- Partner with the Curtis and Anna Bateman owners of NanaDew Herb Farm to continue to provide training on cultivation and marketing, extending the growing season through season extending crop protection materials, and continue to offer education on production and marketing of specialty crops

- Partner with Lincoln Communities Action Team to create a processing facility in Lincoln County to be utilized by producers and locals to process local value-added specialty crop food products for commercial sale and teach producers how to conduct efficient research that will lead to optimizing production and sale of specialty crop goods
- Partner with the Great Basin Food Co-op to establish a farmers' distribution center at West Street Market in downtown Reno that will provide a regular delivery location for farmers to deliver produce and provide a point of regular pick up for specialty produce ordered from Nevada farmers
- Partner with John and Carol Shank with Doubletree Ranch in Lovelock, Nevada to utilize hoop houses to determine what high-value specialty crops are sustainable and provide a larger variety of specialty crops to local farmers markets
- Fund additional staff support to increase and support specialty crops statewide and to perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations
- Provide further outreach and education to specialty crop farmers and local growers about specialty crop production and sustainable forms of specialty crop marketing

New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food

Amount Awarded:	\$260,467.67	Number of Projects:	11
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- Partner with New Hampshire Farmers' Market Association to purchase a series of television spots on WMUR TV to promote New Hampshire farmers' markets during the summer of 2011. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the International Institute of New Hampshire to create a targeted, multilingual marketing and community education plan and materials focusing on increasing specialty crop consumption by federal nutrition benefit program clients; support the management and coordination of the Institute's Good Farmers' Market that will accept Electronic Benefit Transfer cards and Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons; coordinate urban farm stands in low-income neighborhoods; fund for one year a public benefit matching program for SNAP beneficiaries to be used solely for specialty crops at the Institute's Good Food Farmers' Market and urban farm stands
- Partner with New Hampshire Division of Travel & Tourism Development to continue promote the purchase of local agricultural products under a common logo. The SCBGP funds will be used specifically for the benefit of specialty crops. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Harvest New England Association to increase use of the logo by producers, wholesalers, and grocery stores through the facilitation of a conference/tradeshaw, development of the Harvest New England website, and expansion of promotional items for specialty crop produce
- Partner with University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, Cheshire County and Cheshire County Conservation District to conduct on-farm educational programs to educate local specialty crop producers about issues related to food safety, and to enable these producers to implement practices that improve food safety
- Partner with National Organic Farmers Association – New Hampshire to provide targeted workshops that teach four major skill sets: Effective Agricultural Marketing & Promotions, Use of Innovative Technology, Market Efficiency & Distribution, and Local & Regional Food Systems
- Partner with University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension to provide education and hands-on training, conduct organic production methods twilight meetings, and offer energy audits to New Hampshire bedding plant producers
- Partner with Coos County Conservation District to demonstrate and provide hands-on training experience with tools and equipment scaled to small farm and high tunnel operations
- Partner with the New Hampshire Institute of Agriculture and Forestry to research, survey, analyze, and develop a replicable solution for an effective equipment sharing plan among local specialty crop farmers, and record before-and-after results throughout the state. Optimal equipment-sharing solutions can be replicated and adapted to other similar climates and small farms nationwide
- Partner with University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension to investigate the feasibility of producing vegetable crops during the winter months by taking advantage of unused greenhouse space
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

New Jersey Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$840,373.74

Number of Projects:

11

- Improve the promotion and market value of locally grown specialty crops through an expansion of the Jersey Fresh advertising and promotion program
- Partner with the New Jersey Peach Promotion Council to expand the scope of a promotional campaign by incorporating new promotional activities, update the marketing theme, reconstruct the website to provide more information and interaction for users, and continue several educational outreach and dissemination campaigns of industry information
- Partner with the New Jersey Farm Bureau to collaborate with New Jersey Farm-to-School in order to provide consumer education related to the benefits and accessibility of locally grown produce to school foodservice professionals and work with the Rutgers Cooperative Extension to facilitate specialty crop producer seminars, which concern the benefits of direct marketing and provide point-of-purchase materials that will help promote the benefits fruits and vegetables
- Partner with the Garden State Wine Growers Association to assist with the development and execution of the “Barrel Tasting Trail” for the New Jersey Wine Industry, which will include the creation and development of a statewide marketing campaign, development of a secondary logo, creation of a new website section, creation of point-of-sale collateral materials, and development of an educational seminar that focuses on direct marketing
- Partner with the Landisville Cooperative Association to install refrigerated display units for fresh vegetables grown by local producers, increase media advertising, and project evaluation
- Partner with the New Jersey Blueberry Growers Association to implement a consumer oriented advertising campaign that will promote the nutritious attributes of New Jersey grown blueberries
- Partner with the New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association to implement an advertising campaign to promote New Jersey nursery products and related services to residents, growers, landscape contractors, and retail garden centers
- Partner with the New Jersey Small Fruits Council to propagate large numbers of the strawberry selections in order to distribute them to cooperating farmers and support flavor evaluations with local consumers to determine the varieties that will perform the best in local markets
- Increase branding of locally grown horticultural products at the point of sale and to expand consumer and industry print advertising of locally grown horticultural products through the "Jersey Grown" program
- Partner with the Tri-County Cooperative Auction Market Association to support the cooperative’s expanded specialty crop direct sales advertising and promotion effort, which will inform existing wholesale customers of the new retail purchasing options and attract area consumers and restaurants to the cooperative for specialty crop direct sales through direct mailings, website development, print advertising and point of sale advertising items
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

New Mexico Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$396,160.84

Number of Projects:

8

- Provide outreach and education through seminars to appraise the specialty crop industry in New Mexico of the importance of product traceability on a local, national and international scale
- Assist companies with the costs related to receiving their Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) certificates
- Partner with New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) to train NMED and Cooperative Extension Service personnel as well as farmer’s market managers on the regulations and food safety issues related solely to home-based specialty crop processing and to provide a curriculum to train specialty crop home-based processors
- Partner with the New Mexico Wine Growers Association to create education and awareness of the wine industry of New Mexico by actively engaging “novice” wine consumers in an open and casual exchange
- Fund a fulltime New Mexico Department of Agriculture employee to solely promote and enhance the competitiveness of all New Mexico specialty crops at distributor trade shows, national/international food shows, and regional markets
- Increase market share for New Mexico green chile in national markets through in-store promotions

- Partner with the New Mexico Dry Onion Commission to cover the cost of participating in major trade shows
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets

Amount Awarded:	\$1,254,272.19	Number of Projects:	18
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- Partner with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Essex County in cooperation with Mountain Lake PBS to create an educational documentary project that will focus on three community supported agriculture in order to increase consumer awareness of, and interest in purchasing New York State specialty crops as well as inspiring new farmers to participate in growing these specialty crops. The third agricultural story is of a non-specialty crop farm, artisanal cheese production, and will be funded from other sources
- Partner with the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York, Inc. to coordinate, publicize, and host 18 community supported agriculture (CSA) promotional fairs, where farms staff a table to explain their CSA and sell seasonal specialty crop shares to visiting consumers-in eight regions throughout New York. To ensure all funding supports eligible specialty crops, a registration process will be used to track participation and products offered
- Partner with the New York State Maple Producers Association to promote recognition of the “Taste the Tradition” logo and brand and to increase consumer awareness by expanding the Maple Producers Association’s web presence through more concise and organized information about maple products
- Partner with GrowNYC to recruit expert staff to strengthen the all specialty crop wholesale Greenmarket by increasing access to fresh produce in New York City’s underserved neighborhoods
- Produce Trading Cards and Fascinating Food & Farm Facts brochures that food service directors, parents, teachers, school administrators and others can use during New York Harvest for New York Kids Week and throughout the year to help schools and communities learn about New York specialty crops, enjoy locally-grown specialty crop foods, and inspire healthy food choices. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Develop a Pride of New York Retail/Wholesale Promotion Program that will provide promotional and marketing assistance to retail grocery chains and educate retailers to expand “buy local” purchases by highlighting other specialty crop based processed products; and design and produce new “Grown in New York” box stickers -- featuring the Pride of New York logo that the State’s wholesale distributors can use, in partnership with the New York growers that they source from, to feature New York grown produce
- Increase awareness and sales of New York’s specialty crops by promoting specialty crops in a Pride of New York Pavilion at the 2013 Produce Marketing Association Trade Show
- Partner with Cornell University to write an organic crops storage guide for fruits and vegetables grown in New York State that provides research-based information to organic producers who are expanding their markets by storing fruits and vegetables on the farm for sale beyond the growing season and on highly perishable crops that will help them improve their crop’s retail value by maximizing shelf life
- Assist the state’s specialty crop industry address food safety concerns by providing education and training in Good Agricultural Practices/Good Handling Practices
- Partner with Cornell University to develop a research-based, decision-making guide that growers can use to determine if they can rely exclusively on pollination by wild bumble bees or if they need to pay for commercial bumble bees
- Partner with Cornell University to address control of late blight, early blight and Septoria leaf spot in New York tomatoes through genetic breeding
- Partner with Cornell University to carry out research on two bacterial diseases that affect onions and to determine methods of reducing losses from those diseases
- Partner with Cornell University to enhance the sustainability of powdery mildew disease management by providing alternative methods of disease suppression that are economically and socially acceptable
- Partner with Cornell University to identify effective alternatives to streptomycin and Apogee for control of shoot blight of apple, and prepare recommendations for their practical use by growers, in the context of integrated control of fire blight
- Partner with Cornell University to quantify S-residue persistence following spraying in commercial vineyards to provide guidelines to growers regarding when to cease sulfur applications during the growing season, and develop on-line materials to train industry members in the use of this new sulfur measurement methodology

- Partner with Cornell University to develop integrated disease management strategies for the control of grapevine leafroll associated viruses (GLRaV) that are prevalent in Finger Lakes vineyards
- Partner with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Madison County to train an extension educator to work with growers, processors, and brewers throughout the State to supply high-quality hops to the burgeoning New York State craft brewing industry
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Amount Awarded:

\$1,147,731.84

Number of Projects:

23

- Partner with the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association to enhance the competitiveness of North Carolina specialty crop producers that serve the growing market for locally-grown fresh fruits and vegetables through the identification of best management practices that specialty crop farms currently use to reduce the risk of pathogen contamination, work with researchers to validate the effectiveness of those best management practices, and disseminate information about those practices to the state's small produce operations
- Partner with the North Carolina Christmas Tree Association to increase demand and restore wholesale prices for North Carolina Fraser fir Christmas trees through expanded marketing and promotion
- Partner with North Carolina State University to design and develop an interactive information portal targeted directly to commercial nursery, floriculture, and landscape horticulture
- Partner with the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project to conduct research on the standards and requirements of specific markets in North Carolina for key specialty crops in order to provide North Carolina specialty crop producers with valuable information needed to effectively communicate with buyers and deliver products that meet harvest quality and industry packaging standards
- Partner with the North Carolina Strawberry Association to “brand” locally produced North Carolina strawberries, make use of new communication technologies, and provide marketing tools to individual growers as partners in this endeavor
- Partner with the North Carolina Blueberry Council to implement a marketing campaign that will increase demand for North Carolina blueberries by expanding traditional multimedia efforts and expand efforts to improve novel web-oriented advertising efforts
- Partner with the Johnston County Nurseryman Marketing Association to hire a horticulture student to assist in the completion of plant identification research and data entry for a website that includes a searchable and dynamic plant database for green industry professionals to gain knowledge of nursery crops grown in North Carolina
- Partner with the North Carolina Watermelon Association to promote North Carolina watermelons to North Carolina consumers and produce buyers through a coordinated promotional campaign
- Partner with the North Carolina Vegetable Growers Association to conduct a mixed media consumer awareness campaign to build awareness of local produce and drive traffic to the NC Farm Fresh website
- Partner with the North Carolina Flower Growers Association to promote locally grown floriculture plants to targeted consumers through a mixed media promotional campaign with the intent of driving more traffic to the Association internet website and increasing the sales of spring flowering and holiday plant sales
- Partner with the Sod Producers Association to expand and provide increased continuity of North Carolina sod producers' current consumer awareness campaigns, consumer educational products, and educational materials suitable for distribution by individual producers
- Partner with the North Carolina Sweet Potato Commission to develop a marketing campaign, which will educate and create awareness of the healthfulness of sweet potatoes as well as their year round availability in both fresh market and the growing number of value-added products
- Partner with the North Carolina Nursery and Landscape Association to provide new educational initiatives that will improve the management practices and the sustainability of North Carolina grower operations through utilizing of innovative meeting technology including webinars and traditional forms of training including seminars and tours
- Partner with New River Organic Growers to increase specialty crop growers' technical knowledge of production methods and diversify their crop base to ensure year-round supply of produce, reach and educate consumers on the value of locally grown produce, and strengthen networks and marketing strategies with retailers and consumers

- Partner with North Carolina State University to design, build, test, and demonstrate a simple cost-effective unit for small scale (50-200 bushels) treatment of apples with SmartFresh suitable for use by small apple producers in the state who sell their fruit through direct farm markets as well as demonstrate the potential for SmartFresh to preserve the quality, nutritional value, and human health benefits of North Carolina apples
- Partner with the North Carolina Sweet Potato Commission Foundation to perform a literature review in order to summarize and scientifically rank the nutritional benefit of North Carolina sweet potatoes. This information will be used to communicate these findings through an educational campaign that links sweet potatoes with positive nutritional benefits and local food initiatives
- Partner with North Carolina State University to investigate the critical upper temperature limits for Camarosa strawberries in a controlled environment as well as the benefits of several different evaporative cooling approaches for keeping Camarosa flower buds and blossoms below their high temperature limits, which will provide growers an opportunity to achieve a full seven week harvest with this environmentally sensitive variety
- Partner with North Carolina State University to help North Carolina farmers meet the growing demand for locally grown hops by researching the best performing hop cultivars and by analyzing key agronomic issues related to nutrition, water management, disease and pest control
- Partner with North Carolina A&T State University to determine the best nutrient management practices for production of organically-grown produce in a high tunnel structure and the economic potential of high tunnel production of organic tomatoes for late season marketing
- Develop a web based tracking system to assist North Carolina's registered nurseries and garden centers in listing plant acquisitions, to initially register and/or renew annual licenses, and for utilization by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services field and technical staff to enter and query nursery inspection information
- Partner with North Carolina State University to identify the species of wireworm present in North Carolina potato production systems and investigate the cultural practices and environmental conditions that influence the risk of wireworm damage to potato in order to focus efforts to develop a wireworm risk assessment tool for potato producers that will enable informed and effective pest management decisions
- Partner with the Piedmont Food and Agricultural Processing Center to equip a regional value-added, shared-use food and agricultural processing center with specialized equipment focused on value-added specialty crop products
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

North Dakota Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$665,630.19

Number of Projects:

11

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- Partner with North Dakota State University-Carrington Research Extension Center to evaluate specialty crops for adaption in North Dakota and make public and commercial enterprises aware of opportunities through field tours
 - Partner with the North Dakota Farmers Market and Growers Association, Inc. to: collect valuable information on fruit and vegetable producers in order for the Association to better serve the producers needs through education and promotional efforts; provide a mini-grant marketing program to local organized farmers markets solely for the purpose to increase awareness of the availability of local fruits and vegetables at those farmers markets; and provide an opportunity for students in North Dakota schools to learn about the production and marketing of vegetables through a school garden grant program
 - Partner with Dakota Prairies Resource Conservation and Development Council in collaboration with Sioux County Extension Service to provide hands-on training for youth, families, and elders in Sioux County and Standing Rock Indian Reservation in production, marketing, processing, and utilization of locally grown specialty crops through the use of outdoor gardens and a greenhouse
 - Plan third Local Food Summit, implement "Go Wild Fruits and Veggies" curriculum in schools; build capacity for local foods infrastructure development, and document vegetable and fruit production in the state through the recording of fresh produce donated to the Hunger Free ND Garden
 - Partner with National Sunflower Association to develop a rust resistance in confection hybrids, incorporate identified genes into two acceptable confection genetic backgrounds, and make them available to the private seed industry for incorporation into finished commercial hybrids
 - Partner with Northern Pulse Growers Association to evaluate the ingredient and new product uses for dry peas, lentils and chickpeas to nutritionally enhance existing product lines

- Partner with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the University of Minnesota to help develop nitrogen management practices in Minnesota and North Dakota to reduce Acrylamide levels in processed potato producers
- Partner with Northern Crops Institute and North Dakota University to extrude and utilize texturized protein from a bean source and use in cereal and snack products as a gluten-free substitute
- Partner with North Dakota State University to evaluate PRE herbicide with POST herbicide applications during the establishment period of onions for optimal weed control by evaluating and analyzing herbicide treatment data which will provide producers with an effective, consistent control for annual broadleaf weeds
- Partner with North Dakota State University to strengthen and improve the late blight management program developed by research and extension faculty at North Dakota State University originally developed for North Dakota and Minnesota in 1994
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Ohio Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$675,086.37	Number of Projects:	15
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- Partner with the Ohio Produce Growers and Marketers Association to incorporate a food safety component to its annual meeting that will focus on the educational needs for Tier 1 certification under the Ohio Fresh Produce (Food Safety) Marketing Agreement and offer updates on food safety issues
- Partner with the Ohio Produce Growers and Marketers Association to develop a science-based food safety certification program that has the flexibility to address the differences in operation size, production environments, and farm culture across Ohio
- Partner with the Center for Innovative Food Technology to accelerate the development of local food systems in Ohio cities by connecting beginning specialty crop growers from urban, minority communities to retail groceries, produce distributors, and institutional purchasers of specialty crops through the development of a portfolio of materials that will guide beginning producers in planning their operations, and teach them to successfully sell their products, increasing their economic viability, and supporting the growth of sustainable local systems
- Partner with Growhio to improve Ohio's specialty crop industry through the execution of a specialty crop marketing campaign that provides specialty crop nutritional education to children and adults and supports local beginning and limited resource producers
- Promote Ohio's specialty crops through co-op advertising, exposure to retail buyers, and printed promotional materials
- Partner with Ohio State University to develop a user-friendly mobile website for local foods for consumers who depend on mobile devices such as smart phones, iphones, and blackberries
- Partner with Ohio Direct Marketing Team to improve the sustainability and profitability of Ohio fruit and vegetable producers through offering training sessions that increase producer knowledge of the processes and procedures necessary to become 'retail ready' and 'wholesale ready'
- Partner with Ohio State University's South Centers to develop an Ohio specialty crop cooperative on the basis of a previously completed feasibility study that analyzed the interest, best practices, and possible models
- Partner with the Route 9 Cooperative, an Ohio Chestnut growers cooperative, to develop marketing materials, promotion of the cooperative's merchandise, and purchase of necessary supplies for a distribution facility in order to efficiently handle the rapidly increasing chestnut production of cooperative members
- Partner with the Ohio Produce Growers Marketing Association to provide educational resources and events that can reach beekeepers of all levels
- Partner with the Cuyahoga Valley Countryside Conservancy to provide new and current specialty crop producers educational opportunities and technical assistance, which will increase their knowledge concerning specialty crops and expand production throughout Ohio
- Partner with the Ohio Grape Industries Committee to help create viable, income-producing grape-related agribusinesses through the expansion of high-quality, hybrid and vinifera winegrape vineyards throughout Ohio

- Partner with the Ohio State University Center for Farmland Policy Innovation to reduce the number of areas classified as food deserts in Ohio by providing seed grants to increase access to fruits and vegetables in underserved communities. Seed grants will enable communities to implement locally tailored solutions including technical assistance, project materials, and needed supplies
- Partner with Grow Food, Grow Hope to create a mobile garden unit that can travel to local schools, youth centers, and childcare facilities to educate youth about gardening specialty crops
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry

Amount Awarded:	\$369,855.41	Number of Projects:	7
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- Partner with Oklahoma State University to conduct plant evaluation, field testing, and marketing designed to provide the consumer with information on plants suitable for Oklahoma
- Continue a statewide advertisement campaign through funding local promotional grants, Ok Grown tote bags, and advertisements to increase awareness of Oklahoma’s specialty crops in order to stimulate supply of these commodities and the general public’s demand for them
- Increase child and parent nutrition knowledge of fruits and vegetables by providing resources such as posters and web information for educators to use in school settings and incorporate into their curriculum.
- Partner with Oklahoma State University to determine graft compatibility among sand plum (*Prunus gracilas*) and different rootstocks
- Partner with Oklahoma State University to establish a center for ornamental drought tolerant evaluation and production in Oklahoma
- Fund participation in a program that allows small (less than 40 acres), limited resource specialty crop farmers to apply for a plasticulture program, assist in the installation of up to one acre of plasticulture, fund land preparation, animal depredation, wildlife fencing, fertilizer, scales, irrigation systems, plants, and plastic
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Oregon Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$1,764,486.13	Number of Projects:	26
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- Expand outreach efforts to include technical guidance to include technical information for all the state’s food safety certification programs and train additional Good Agricultural Practices auditors
- Achieve International Organization for Standardization (ISO) accreditation for the Oregon Department of Agriculture’s Laboratory Services Division to provide voluntary certification services to potatoes, onions, blueberries, cherries, and pears
- Implement a pilot project that will document the process for implementing farm to school programs that integrate the school cafeteria with the classroom and community in a large urban and small rural school district, and describe the program’s impact on present and future market opportunities for Oregon fruits and vegetables in the school food market
- Conduct a trade development mission to Singapore, Vietnam, Hong Kong, and Macau to introduce Oregon and Washington potatoes through specialty product cooking demonstrations and buyer meetings
- Conduct three farm day events to offer new opportunities for Oregon specialty crop farmers to connect to local wholesale buyers
- Partner with Curry Soil and Water Conservation District to expand cranberry marketing to Japan, Korea, China, and India, make cranberry farming more profitable for growers with a series of innovations on their farm, and commission a film/DVD about Oregon’s South Coast cranberries
- Partner with Ecotrust to support comprehensive outreach and marketing efforts to recruit specialty crop producers and buyers and complete site modifications and improvements based on specialty crop user feedback. To ensure that specialty crop funding solely enhances the competitiveness of specialty crops, the ratio of FoodHub specialty crop funding to non-specialty crop funding will be monitored, making sure it is equal to or less than the ratio of specialty crop members

- Partner with Food Alliance to create a voluntary sustainability certification program that provides nursery growers with opportunities to differentiate and add value to products
- Partner with Klamath Basin Fresh Direct, LLC to increase the sustainability of potato producers through the development and marketing of specialty potato varieties and potato products
- Partner with the Idaho Department of Agriculture and Northwest Food Processors Association to create a comprehensive, industry-driven sustainability support structure to help specialty crop producers and processors design and implement company-specific sustainability plans. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with Oregon Environmental Council to establish and manage a certification program for carbon management at Low Input Viticulture and Enology (LIVE)
- Partner with the Oregon Potato Commission to participate in a trade mission to the Singapore, Hong Kong, Vietnam, and Macau to focus on multi-disciplinary methods involving expert potato variety personnel, an executive chef, potato exporters, written materials, and outreach seminars that will enhance the competitiveness of the Pacific Northwest potato industry
- Partner with the Oregon Raspberry & Blackberry Commission to increase awareness of Oregon berries as a premium berry crop by showcasing the industry in a two-day festival
- Partner with Oregon Wine Board to increase consumer awareness of Oregon certified sustainable wine through media relations, online marketing, and trade education
- Partner with Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association to protect current existing markets and build and develop new markets while providing a message to consumers that includes the sustainable nature of real Christmas trees while dispelling common misperceptions
- Partner with the Washington Department of Agriculture and the Pear Bureau Northwest to augment market development and access, as well as provide consumer education concerning USA pear product and varietal development and nutritional benefits in Mexico
- Work closely with Oregon exporters, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Trade Office in Seoul and other key in-market contacts to inform, design, and execute the OREGON KORUS initiative, which will provide Oregon agricultural exporters with access to a range of information, tools, resources, and activities. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Increase the amount of Oregon grown and processed fruits and vegetables in schools across the state by extending the farm-to-school toolkit materials for an additional eight months
- Provide aspiring farmers with comprehensive field-based instruction and support in commercial, specialty crop farming operations
- Partner with the Oregon Association of Nurseries to develop a systems approach manual that addresses procurement and propagation of clean stock that includes best management practices for nursery operations
- Partner with Oregon Seed Council to educate producers of fine turf and other minor crops in the area of contract law, business structure, and international trade
- Assist nurseries in identifying at which critical point the Phytophthora disease is being introduced to their nursery
- Partner with Blue Mountain Horticultural Society to enable area wide mating disruption, predict insect and disease life cycles accurately, enable accurate timing of soft chemical sprays, reduce frequencies of chemical sprays, minimize effects of untended backyard fruit trees and abandoned orchards, and attempt to eliminate apple maggot from Pendleton
- Partner with Certified Onions, Inc. to expand food safety testing to include all registered pesticides used on onions and also testing for undesirable pathogens through the reduction of the cost for testing, an increase in the marketing and promotion of the benefits of testing to buyers and consumers, creation of added value for Oregon onions, and the provision of research in order to develop the most effective testing models
- Partner with Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers to provide cost-sharing to growers for mating disruption dispensers and conduct an intensive monitoring program for codling moth supporting threshold-based pest management decision making
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$1,069,427.21

Number of Projects:

21

- Partner with American Mushroom Institute to continue and build on funding from previous Specialty Crop Block Grants funds to provide growers, packers and shippers with updated food safety standards and guidelines, effective education and training tools to meet those standards and research-based solutions to food safety challenges
- Partner with Penn State Cooperative Extension to expand state wide training and technical assistance on farm food safety through partial salary support of a select group of cooperative extension educators to deliver Good Agricultural Practices training to support Pennsylvania specialty crop growers
- Partner with Penn State University to conduct an evaluation of microbial food safety risks associated with the use of surface water intended for irrigation of specialty crops in Pennsylvania and to develop and validate the accuracy of simple, economical procedures farmers can use to submit samples to offsite water testing laboratories
- Partner with Penn State University to develop and deliver farm food safety and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) curricular materials to specialty crop growers throughout Pennsylvania
- Partner with Fay-Penn Economic Development Council to allow local farmers and food suppliers to showcase their specialty crops to local consumers in a community farm market setting; and educate the consumers regarding the health benefit to their families as well as the impact on their community's local economy. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Pennsylvania Apple Marketing Program to continue a media promotional campaign to promote consumer awareness of Pennsylvania Farm Markets and to promote Pennsylvania apples and apple products
- Promote to consumers the availability of local produce during the 2011 and 2012 growing seasons through season-long press relations, a vegetable recipe contest and an 'August is Pennsylvania Produce Month' promotion
- Provide fresh, locally grown specialty crops to WIC recipients and low income senior citizens, while expanding the number of outlets, the awareness, as well as the use of and sales at farm markets and farm stands to endorse positive behavior for eating more nutritious food to reduce the incidence of hunger and under nutrition in Pennsylvania. Project funds will be monitored to ensure that all funding solely enhances the competitiveness of eligible specialty crops
- Partner with the Pennsylvania Winery Association for the development of the Pennsylvania Wine Quality Initiative to continue the development and training of industry members' ability to detect common flaws and assess sensory characteristics of wine based on rigorous and structured training
- Work with Cross Creek Farms, LLC to formulate a model for the market development of sweet onions in Pennsylvania through the analysis of existing data and performing interviews with informed stakeholders
- Partner with Fair Food to coordinate the Farm to School program where twenty school districts in Philadelphia will purchase specialty crops from a variety of Pennsylvania growers for direct use in school meals, and provide nutrition and agriculture education about the benefits and nutritional qualities of specialty crops to students, and school personnel
- Provide marketing assistance, education outreach and promotional efforts to agribusinesses by providing a Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) cost share program; assist new, beginning and minority farmers in production agriculture transition to specialty crops through the Center for Farm Transitions; and promote specialty crops through the state branding program, PA Preferred™, by facilitating the sourcing of Pennsylvania products in a variety of outlets
- Continue and further expand Good Agricultural Practices training and educational outreach program by working in conjunction with Penn State, Penn State Extension Educators, PennTAP (Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program) and Delaware Valley College to provide a bilingual food safety program to Pennsylvania growers and farm workers to minimize food safety risks in Pennsylvania farms and orchards
- Partner with the Food Trust to increase consumption of Pennsylvania fruits and vegetables among urban youth in the city of Philadelphia recreation center program through educational field trips to nearby farmers' markets, recreation center-based "Farm Stores" that will provide nutrition education and access to fresh PA produce, and cooking workshops for children, families, and other community members using fresh PA produce from farmers' markets
- Partner with Chester County Economic Development Council to provide training opportunities for mushroom producing workers and supervisors concerning workplace safety, technology implementation, Mushroom Good Agricultural Practices (MGAP), and business skills development

- Partner with Penn State University and the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association to teach growers of Christmas trees techniques that will lead to reduced amounts or toxicity of pesticide products used to control invasive armored scales and help growers integrate biological control
- Partner with Penn State University to evaluate those biological inoculants that currently carry EPA labels for their ability to increase vigor, prevent soil-borne diseases and their impact on raspberry crop yields
- Partner with Penn State University to evaluate labeled biological organisms for their ability to control common tomato diseases with the goal of developing specific recommendations for grower adoption
- Partner with Penn State University to work with the vegetable industry and Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Seed Program in order to address bacterial spot disease of tomato and pepper, caused by several Xanthomonas species, associated with tomato transplants shipped from other states
- Partner with Linvilla Orchards to prove that Seascape strawberry can be produced profitably during the months of July and August and possibly into September and October in Pennsylvania and collaborate with the Chester County Horticulture Extension Educator and Chester/Delaware County Fruit Growers Association to share the result of these Seascape trials and support other farmers to develop a new regional crop
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Departamento de Agricultura de Puerto Rico

Amount Awarded:	\$400,097.74	Number of Projects:	10
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- Promote specialty crops at international, local trade shows, as well as through television and print advertisements. To ensure that funds solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops, the Department of Agriculture will devise a branding strategy that solely targets eligible specialty crops
- Redesign and produce artwork for the Puerto Rican buy-local branding of individual packages for locally grown specialty crops
- Partner with Apiarios Caraballo, Corp. to conduct a promotional and branding campaign to enhance the competitiveness of honey
- Partner with Productos Sana, Inc. to conduct a marketing plan to promote vegetables, culinary and medical herbs and spices that includes: introduction of counters with logo, web page, advertisements, banners, posters, tasting campaign, improvements to packaging, promotion for price offers, radio and television announcements
- Partner with Agroindustria del Noroeste, Inc. to conduct a market study and analysis for manioc (cassava); preparation of a film documentary for use at trade show opportunities; support for participation in trade shows and fairs; art work for quality labeling; production of labels and packaging material; training for personnel and farmers in best management (agricultural and manufacturing) practices; and new product development and testing and others
- Partner with Apiarios de Borinquen, Inc. to conduct two training courses aimed at beginning beekeepers for technology transfer related to beekeeping management practices and promote through printed materials and radio advertisements to announce the training courses, to advertise the firm, its products and to promote honey consumption
- Partner with the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus to research the use of shade houses for pest control, season extension, and increased production of specialty crops and sharing results with local specialty crop producers
- Partner with Hacienda Monte Alto, Inc. to move a greater amount of quality coffee into the high-end price niche, where it is competitive against high quality coffee sourced by specialized establishments from around the world
- Partner with Finca San Lázaro to cover the cost of an onion sizing and packaging system
- Provide a visible pilot demonstration of pineapple production that illustrates an improved genetic variety and cultivation under recommended technique through the importation of material to cultivate a superior variety of pineapples in Puerto Rico

Rhode Island Division of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$224,472.49	Number of Projects:	13
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- Collaborate with the University of Rhode Island to continue to provide Good Agricultural Practices training and consultation with growers and promote the program to consumers
- Partner with Farm Fresh Rhode Island to enhance efforts to differentiate local potatoes, to retail and wholesale buyers, and to increase Rhode Islander awareness of the quality to locally grown and freshly dug potatoes through the implementation of a marketing campaign that includes the development and distribution of point-of-sale displays and collateral materials and the facilitation of a potato oriented festival
- Partner with Farm Fresh Rhode Island, a Brown University community group, to ensure the accuracy and breadth of the information in the online RI farm database at www.farmfreshri.org by getting current farm data from more RI specialty crop farms
- Partner with the Southside Community Land Trust to strengthen local specialty crop producers through the creation and distribution of promotional materials as well as the provision of technical support
- Partner with the Charlestown Land Trust to establish farm tours in order to foster increased consumption and product awareness of specialty crops as well as develop a research internship program that will assist in product development
- Continue to expand on Rhode Island's specialty crop promotional activities, which include “Rhode Island Grown Get Fresh Buy Local” initiative by conducting produce preparation demonstrations featuring local celebrity chefs at all RI farmers market and participating roadside stands, update its RI Agricultural Display, continue marketing projects with Harvest New England, enhance the marketing program by making point of purchase advertising material available to farmers, and introduce electronic benefit transfer banking to Farmers Markets to allow USDA Food Stamp recipients to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. Matching funds will be used to cover non-specialty crop commodities and producers
- Partner with the Harvest New England Association to increase use of the logo by producers, wholesalers, and grocery stores through the facilitation of a conference/tradeshaw, development of the Harvest New England website, and expansion of promotional items for specialty crop produce
- Partner with Coggeshall Farm Museum to create greater awareness of the value, viability, and importance of horticulture through the initiation, maintenance, and exhibit of the museum's 18th Century foodway's horticultural component
- Partner with the Rhode Island Apple Growers to develop a documentary that highlights the story of Rhode Island's apple growers and how they have responded to changing technology and markets in order to increase consumer awareness of Rhode Island apples
- Partner with the Rhode Island Center for Agricultural Promotion and Education to develop a mini-documentary that will generate awareness among the public concerning local specialty crop agriculture and agritourism
- Partner with the Rhode Island Christmas Tree Growers Association to encourage specialists in the area of integrated pest management to provide educational opportunities, which will enhance the quality of Christmas trees throughout Rhode Island. Marketing and outreach activities will also be sponsored in order to enhance the Christmas tree marketing throughout Rhode Island
- Partner with the Green Company to determine if the recommended USDA general rule of honey bee colonies per crop acre still applies today in Rhode Island's ecological and farming environment
- Partner with the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association and the Rhode Island Turfgrass Foundation to develop and produce a rigorous economic survey of Rhode Island's specialty crop industry, specifically targeting the turfgrass and environmental horticulture

South Carolina Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$524,182.84

Number of Projects:

18

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- Create monthly specialty crop productions for the local “Making It Grow” public television segment
 - Develop a promotional video showcasing South Carolina’s participation and implementation of food safety protocols in the fruit and vegetable industry
 - Execute a signage program at retail food stores to emphasize local specialty crops
 - Provide tools to promote and facilitate sales of South Carolina specialty products through trade shows and seek niche market opportunities for smaller volume specialty crops
 - Partner with Clemson University and Clemson Cooperative Extension and Experiment Station to determine the feasibility of a specialty crop food business incubator located at the new state farmers’ market in Columbia

- Fund advertising services in order to promote increased consumer traffic at three spring plant and flower shows in order to gain visibility and make direct product sales to consumers
- Develop and print point of purchase materials and signage for use at industry events, retail promotions, farmers markets, and roadside markets to promote fresh fruits and vegetables grown in South Carolina
- Provide support for small community-based farmers' markets to solely promote eligible specialty crops
- Partner with Carolina Farm Stewardship Association to promote awareness to the organic specialty crop farmers about how they can fund their operations through EQIP-OI
- Partner with Carolina Agrisolutions Growers Association (CASGA) to coordinate the Research in Agriculture, Industry and Nature Conference (RAIN); develop a Value-Added Resource Guide; and compile value added consumer marketing and distribution model research. All CASGA members are required to be active producers of value-added agricultural products derived from those crops considered to be “specialty crops and topics at the RAIN conference will be focused specifically on those either actively engaged in the specialty crop sector or planning to become engaged in a related new specialty crop business enterprise
- Partner with South Carolina Peach Council and South Carolina Watermelon Association to increase awareness, consumption and benefits of eating watermelon and peaches when in season
- Partner with Lowcountry Local First to train new specialty crop farmers and food system leaders through the Growing New Farmers Incubator Program (GNFIP). Through the program, apprentices will be matched with mentor farmers, participate in the Lowcountry Grower’s Group, work with their online market, farmfreshmarketsc.org, and attend the FastTracSC Food and Farming Entrepreneurship Course. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the South Carolina Fruit, Vegetable & Specialty Crop Association to train small and minority farmers about food safety issues through a series of workshops
- Partner with Clemson University to increase consumer access to specialty crop preservation resources through developing a specialty crop food preservation website and offering 32, four-hour hands-on classes
- Partner with South Carolina Nursery & Landscape Association to promote specialty crops through an educational seminar where attendees can become pesticide certified and learn about landscape design and management
- Partner with Will Henderson, Extension Precision Agriculture Specialist, Edisto REC to improve soil water monitoring probes which will help peach growers manage irrigation more efficiently and conserve water
- Partner with Clemson University Coastal REC, Dr. Anthony Keinath to test the effectiveness of tebuconazole and other Group 3 active ingredients on gummy stem blight in watermelons and cantaloupes
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

South Dakota Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$208,816.87	Number of Projects:	14
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- Partner with the South Dakota Wine Growers Association to develop a communications outreach program that includes a public relations campaign, billboards, brochures, magazine advertising, website, email campaigns, television and radio ads. Visitors will be directed to the websites of the South Dakota Wine Growers Association and member wineries to promote the wines developed from specialty crops
- Partner with the South Dakota Department of Health to raise awareness to consumers and growers of the health benefits and availability of fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables
- Partner with MB's Consulting Service to hold events to promote the South Dakota Wine Growers Association member's wines
- Partner with Buy Fresh Buy Local/South Dakota Specialty Producers Association to participate at various farmers markets events to educate consumers on how to purchase, process, preserve, cook, and enjoy eating fruits and vegetables. Matching funds will be provided to cover the costs associated with non-specialty crop membership
- Partner with Sustained Horizons, LLC to provide native prairie grass plants to garden centers to promote the benefits of using native, sustainable, economic, and low maintenance plants to consumers

- Increase the number of consumers who are exposed to and sample South Dakota wines by hosting a Wine Pavilion at the South Dakota State Fair
- Partner with Sturgis Center for the Arts, Inc. to make produce assessable to EBT/SNAP recipients through the purchase of an EBT device for the Sturgis Main Street Farmer's Market; advertise the market focusing on specialty crops; and provide specialty crop producers of the market education on farmer's market state guidelines, Good Agricultural Practices, and safe food handling requirements
- Partner with the South Dakota Specialty Producers Association to host a workshop to educate beginning specialty crop growers on business planning and development
- Partner with The Harvest Initiative, Inc. on behalf of the Icahunyapi Partnership to provide technical assistance to Crow Creek Sioux Tribal members in producing and marketing their produce and develop a school garden at the Crow Creek Tribal School
- Partner with Washington Pavilion Management, Inc. to support a new bees and honey exhibit at the Kirby Science Discovery Center
- Partner with Dakota Rural Action to survey school food service directors to determine their interest in purchasing locally grown specialty crops in order to identify school districts interested in cooperating to develop Farm to School projects; hold a training event for school lunch directors and specialty crop producers interested in marketing to school lunch programs; and develop and distribute the 2011 SD Local Foods Directory
- Host a one-day local foods conference to bring together specialty crop producers, farmers markets, schools, restaurants, and retailers to provide sessions specifically focusing on fruits and vegetables such as selling locally, how to enter the institutional market, etc.
- Partner with South Dakota State University to increase interest in the production of a turf-type blue grama cultivar by researching and developing cultivars that could thrive in South Dakota
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$520,784.71	Number of Projects:	11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with Rural Resources to create a food safety system for producers that grow specialty crops for the Mobile Farmers Market, packing, and distribution system in order to ensure compliance with good agricultural practices • Partner with the Tennessee Fruit and Vegetable Association to increase efforts to conduct and promote water testing for specialty crop food safety and redesign the TFVA website to be more informative for specialty crop producers • Partner with the Tennessee Nursery and Landscape Association to develop the layout and print a new buyers' guide, participate in the Mid-State Horticultural Expo, and facilitate the Tennessee Nursery and Landscape Association's Winter Education Program in order to enable Tennessee growers to market their products on a national and/or international level • Partner with Middle Tennessee Nursery Association to implement a marketing campaign to increase public awareness and showcase the quality of local products of the hard goods, field container production, supplies, and ornamental crops associated with the green industry • Continue to partner with the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation to conduct a statewide buy local branding program, produce local food resource guides, conduct advertising, and distribute educational/promotional materials that solely benefit specialty crop commodities and producers • Partner with the Tennessee Technological University to demonstrate high tunnel technology that will enable growers to produce strawberries about one month earlier than traditional open-field techniques in order to enhance farmer revenue and have a positive impact on the local economy • Partner with the Tennessee Fruit and Vegetable Association to implement more regional statewide Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) workshops as well as appoint part-time regional food safety coordinators in order to facilitate Tennessee specialty crop producer compliance with GAP and GHP • Partner with the Tennessee Beekeepers Association to increase the ability of Tennessee beekeepers to have a quality source of honey bee queens and package bees, increase honey production, obtain additional income through the production and marketing of value added products, and provide an adequate source of honey bee pollinators to pollinate the crops of the State's fruit and vegetable industry 			

- Partner with Rural Resources to give economically disadvantaged teens the opportunity to learn about specialty crops through a summer teen program
- Partner with the University of Tennessee to demonstrate the potential for bioactive wood species to function as superior, weed-controlling mulches within agricultural systems, including transitioning to organic gardening and container productions, and in sustainable landscape settings
- Partner with the University of Tennessee to investigate the establishment of olives and truffles as specialty crops in Tennessee through an evaluation of potential cultivars and favorable environments as well as a determination of potential pests and costs associated with the launch of these crops

Texas Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$1,800,402.41

Number of Projects:

25

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- Partner with Texas A&M University to establish methods to enhance killing effectiveness of e-beam treatment in order to address the effectiveness of irradiation protocols in reducing contamination risk and improving consumer food safety of fresh leafy vegetables
 - Partner with the Texas Vegetable Association to conduct a statewide conference on food safety issues and a regional traceability conference targeting specialty crop producers of horticultural produce, including vegetables, citrus, pecans, peaches and berries
 - Partner with the Texas Vegetable Association to improve food safety and increase sales of Texan produce by developing webinars to discuss proposed FDA food safety rules, organizing a food safety conference targeting growers and packers, and conducting a bus tour for produce buyers in the Rio Grande Valley
 - Partner with Turfgrass Producers of Texas to develop, publish, and make guidelines available to Texas consumers for the selection, installation, and maintenance of turfgrass and develop a weed control manual for turfgrass producers
 - Partner with San Antonio Herb Market to promote and increase the awareness and use of fresh herbs and provide their nutritional information to the community by offering multiple avenues of education where the community can learn the benefits, uses and sources of fresh herbs
 - Partner with the Texas Christmas Tree Growers Association to educate consumers about the benefits of purchasing a real Christmas tree and to gain a better understanding of agriculture and its importance in today's society
 - Partner with TexaSweat to increase awareness and consumption of Texas Rio Star Grapefruit by conducting mass media outreach via television, a media tour, and a series of in-store sampling demonstrations
 - Partner with Texas Certified Farmers' Markets Corporation to solely promote public awareness of fresh fruits and vegetables sold at local member markets through the use of local and area media advertising
 - Partner with the Texas Watermelon Association to conduct in store demonstrations and increase both consumer awareness and sales of Texas watermelons
 - Partner with the Texas Vegetable Association to increase awareness of Texas vegetables through in-store demonstrations, supporting local produce consumption in restaurants and touting their health benefits
 - Partner with Texas AgriLife Research to add value to stone fruits and pecans, by promoting them as healthy products against chronic diseases by pursuing a generation of scientific information on health promoting properties related to chronic inflammation and the metabolic syndrome in in-vitro studies; varietal selection and validation in in-vivo studies; establishing a pool of buyers in the alternative markets and; outreach and dissemination of success stories to stakeholders and industries associated with alternative markets and consumers
 - Create informational and media events, which includes planning and conducting Market to Menu events to showcase fresh produce available at farmers markets for use in Texas restaurants; create informational literature on Texas Superstar plants, Earth-Kind Roses and Texas herbs and produce availability listings; and combine media/advertising to increase consumer awareness and sales of Texas specialty crops
 - Create educational events which includes the development of culinary workshops to train chefs on the use of fresh Texas produce; train producers and educate growers on marketing opportunities and in-store demonstrations to help educate consumers on how to use fresh produce in the kitchen; set up informational produce kiosks at State Fair to train school food service employees and seniors on purchasing and using local produce at farmers markets; and create child nutrition information to distribute during Fruit and Vegetable Month

- Increase the sales and value of Texas grown specialty crops by strengthening the Texas Department of Agriculture's relationship with Texas grocery retailers, connecting agriculture producers with retailers and providing the opportunity for specialty crops to reach a larger base through a general retail promotional program
- Partner with the Texas Pecan Growers Association to educate pecan growers on Good Agricultural Practices they should adopt to ensure they are marketing a product that is safe for consumption
- Partner with High Plains Food Bank to educate children and adults on their eating habits using an integrated hands-on approach to food production from seed to harvest with a focus on locally grown and ethnically valued specialty crops
- Partner with Texas Nursery & Landscape Association to ensure the highest quality products reach the end consumer by educating growers, retailers, and landscapers of the "Green Industry"
- Partner with Texas A&M University to develop a curriculum in food safety where producers, farm managers, packers and shippers are trained in Good Agricultural Practices and Good Handling Practices and conduct workshops that qualify participants for a cost-share fund towards one audit fee by a certified third party company
- Partner with Texas Citrus Mutual to slow the spread of citrus greening in Texas by providing information and resources for both homeowners and growers, creating a greater awareness of the threat, and helping to educate both groups on what they can do to slow the spread of the disease
- Partner with the Texas Tech University, in conjunction with the Texas Olive Oil Council, to identify best management practices in irrigation/plant physiology, effect of temperature/humidity on bloom and fruit set, nutrient management, and weed control in orchards for olive production in Texas
- Partner with Texas Tech University to examine the seed production capabilities of several cool-season and warm-season turfgrass species in West Texas for use as a viable and more environmentally friendly alternative to conventional crops
- Partner with Texas Citrus Mutual to assist in the reduction and eradication of the population of *Diaprepes abbreviatus* by installing ground cover in residential dooryards.
- Slow the spread of Huanglongbing (HLB) by working with the US Department of Agriculture to conduct a systematic survey for the disease in an area outside of the current quarantine and undertake intense psyllid control efforts surrounding any newly detected infected sites
- Partner with the Texas Fruit Growers Association to develop a model high tunnel system for peaches, by exploring different structural options and tree spacings
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$182,405.20	Number of Projects:	4
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- Work to increase the supply of highly demanded mango and avocado tree varieties through the establishment of a plant propagation program in the U.S. Virgin Islands
- Partner with the University of the Virgin Islands Agricultural Experiment Station Biotechnology & Agroforestry to conduct on-farm evaluation and plant breeding of sorrel to combine beneficial attributes into new varieties with year-round production potential
- Partner with the University of the Virgin Islands Agricultural Experiment Station Biotechnology & Agroforestry to conduct trials to micropropagate and grow varieties of virus and disease free sweet potatoes in farmers' fields and compare them to the cultivars that farmers are presently growing
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

Amount Awarded:	\$309,814.76	Number of Projects:	22
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- Partner with Utah State University to provide educational opportunities for the public through hands-on demonstrations, exhibits and gardening experiences, to provide up-to-date useful information, while focusing on the selection and cultivation of standard tree fruit and small fruit crops suited for the Wasatch Front

- Partner with Wasatch Community Gardens to empower youth with the skills, awareness and knowledge to grow and harvest food and taste and prepare new fruits and vegetables, in order to make healthy choices for themselves and the environment
- Partner with Phoenix Tears Nursery, LLC to conduct a nutrient profile analysis of dried wolfberry leaves and dried inner root bark and to summarize nutrient data information
- Partner with Utah State University to devise alternative techniques that are functional but inexpensive to overcome the problems plants experience when grown in harsh winter conditions
- Partner with Utah State University to evaluate methods for measuring tree stress of tart cherries subjected to deficit irrigation stress
- Partner with Improving Perennial Plants for Food and Bioenergy, Inc. to select and breed improved cultivars of Saskatoon serviceberries for use by commercial producers and for homeowners to use in edible landscapes
- Partner with Improving Perennial Plants for Food and Bioenergy, Inc. to seek support for scientific plant breeding research that will release improved cultivars for the Utah apricot industry
- Partner with Utah State University to continue current studies on evaluation of new caneberry (raspberry and blackberry) varieties for suitability to growing conditions in northern Utah, production of high yields and fruit quality, as well as evaluate relative cultivar susceptibility to the most important group of pests, the caneborer complex
- Partner with the Utah State Horticultural Association to establish an experimental tart cherry orchard to optimize a high density system, which will develop and test a prototype canopy-shake mechanical harvester, by adapting existing harvest technology used in berry crops
- Partner with Cornaby Farms to identify the total color, anthocyanin content and antioxidant capacity of juice, pulp and seeds of six raspberry cultivars grown in a controlled environment in Salem, Utah
- Partner with Utah State University to address the hypothesis that fungicide ingestion disrupts learning, causes memory loss, or both in the nesting of blue orchard bees
- Partner with NativeBees.com to provide materials and services required to build nesting habitats and conduct research regarding the efficacy and sustainability of habitats and management systems in orchards
- Partner with Utah State University to provide locally adapted solutions to help conventional fruit growers reduce orchard floor management options for soil quality, pests, and efficient water
- Partner with Utah State University to identify streptomycin-resistant *Erwinia amylovora* populations that are present in apple and pear growing regions in Utah and to determine their distribution in the state
- Partner with Utah State University to deploy the use of GS-120 killing stations which will enable cherry growers to manage cherry fruit fly more cost effectively with a reduced risk insecticide
- Partner with the Utah Apple Marketing Board and the Utah State Horticulture Association to compare the detection levels of *Erwinia amylovora* bacteria, the causal agent of fire blight between the technologies, isothermal loop-mediated amplification (LAMP), real-time polymerase chain reaction, and the growth medium called CCT
- Partner with Utah State University to evaluate two earwig trapping/monitoring methods, which include corrugated cardboard rolls and sticky trunk bands placed on peach trees in a commercial orchard, and compare the efficacy of several types of insecticides to reduce earwig injury to peach fruits
- Partner with the Utah State Horticultural Association to upgrade the existing weather stations owned by the Utah State University IPM Program, to purchase additional stations, expand the offerings of the online pest decision aid tool Timing Resource and Alert for Pests and provide a text message alert system for spraying, frost prediction
- Partner with Utah State University to produce a new organic-compatible fungicide (SYRA) and to examine its effectiveness as an organic vegetable seed treatment substance
- Partner with Utah State University to evaluate a relatively new product called Checkmate Puffer CM to use as a pesticide in controlling the codling moth, which is a primary pest of apples
- Partner with Utah State University to survey several northern Utah stone fruit orchards for three specific diseases: brown rot (*Monilinia fruticosa*), bacterial canker (*Pseudomonas syringae*), and cytospra canker (several *Cytosporasp*)
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Vermont Agency of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:

\$228,703.35

Number of Projects:

17

- Partner with the Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association to oversee a comprehensive survey of Vermont's apple industry to determine the number of commercial apple orchards currently operating in the state, quantify bearing and non-bearing acreage, determine marketing venues, varieties grown and verify orchard training methods
- Partner with the Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association to increase the competitiveness of Vermont apple growers in local, regional, national, and international markets through a diverse marketing and education program that will enhance the effectiveness of Vermont's apple website, participate in the 2011 New York Produce Show, implement a buy local campaign, and provide support services to local apple growers
- Partner with the Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association to create a pilot program to research designs and other details for display units that would be used by retailers and shared among Vermont apple vendors
- Partner with the Harvest New England Association to increase use of the logo by producers, wholesalers, and grocery stores through the facilitation of a conference/tradeshaw, development of the Harvest New England website, and expansion of promotional items for specialty crop produce
- Partner with the New England Apple Association to complete a two-phase marketing initiative that will enhance the competitiveness of Vermont and New England apple growers through the improvement of the association's website, provision of technical support to Vermont orchards, and development of marketing materials that support New England apples
- Partner with the New Hampshire-Vermont Christmas Tree Association to expand field meetings through active encouragement of non-member attendance, especially those new to the industry, maintain a manned booth at Rutland Fair, and update the organization's website
- Partner with the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont to increase the amount of specialty crops sold through electronic benefits transfer (EBT) through the provision of a stipend, which will enable the staffing and promotion of specialty crops for food stamp recipients at fifteen farmers markets that have EBT machines
- Partner with the Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association to develop and publish a sixteen page color publication, which will feature directories of producers, recipes, and news items in order to encourage direct-to-consumer sales of Vermont specialty crops and specialty crop products
- Partner with the Vermont Grape and Wine Council to develop a marketing and educational campaign, which introduce consumers to new types of Vermont wine and inform growers and winemakers about potential improvements to grape and wine products
- Partner with the Mount Snow Valley Chamber of Commerce to develop an education and marketing campaign, which will inform local school children and the public about local and state specialty crop producers—specifically blueberries and grapes—through a variety of workshops and events
- Partner with the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont to develop a series of seven on-farm workshops for new and aspiring vegetable farmers on important production and business-related practices, including soils and composting, organic plant disease management, organic weed control, food safety practices, on-farm energy production and conservation, marketing practices and strategies, and business and enterprise planning and analysis
- Partner with the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont to conduct on-farm and winter conference workshops for vegetable producers, which will encompass critical information and techniques concerning the safe production, handling, and marketing of organic vegetables
- Partner with the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont to facilitate several workshops in order to increase the consumption of specialty crops by children in Vermont schools by sharing best practices among school foodservice providers and other community partners. This program will solely focus on the seasonal use of specialty crops, storage and light processing of fruits and vegetables that can be successfully grown, at scale, for Vermont schools
- Partner with the University of Vermont to evaluate manure as a tool for conservation and biological control, which has potential to help growers in the development of preventative pest control systems for vegetable and berry production in Vermont
- Partner with the Vermont Grape and Wine Council to utilize the application of geographic information systems in order to enable prospective and experienced grape growers to identify suitable vineyard sites in Vermont

- Partner with the University of Vermont Cooperative Extension to develop equipment prototypes for small scale hops production as well as extend research on variety and fertility amendments and continue outreach activities that include conferences, field days, farm visits, and internet resources
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Amount Awarded:	\$513,226.80	Number of Projects:	20
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- Partner with Virginia Christmas Tree Growers Association to enhance marketing practices and bring growers and buyers together by sponsoring marketing expos in each region of Virginia
- Partner with Virginia Tech to increase the purchasing of Virginia fruits and vegetables for: all Virginia school divisions for all school lunches; enrolled USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program schools; and the 2011 and 2012 Virginia Farm-to-School Weeks
- Partner with Farmers Direct Marketing Association to bolster specialty crop direct marketing in Virginia by developing an updated Farmers Direct Marketing Association website, develop a business-to-business Facebook page, and develop a series of workshops to benefit farm direct marketers and farmers markets. All project activities will be aimed at specialty crop producers
- Design, develop and supply promotional tools to be used at the farm to increase nutritional knowledge of strawberries and to develop community awareness of locally grown strawberries to increase farm sales and consumption of berries
- Partner with Virginia Tech to add an additional source of new plants for Beautiful Gardens® by designing and implementing a series of plant breeding workshops throughout Virginia for commercial and private individuals (hobbyist gardeners) and plant breeders, for the purpose of developing new and improved plant varieties
- Partner with Virginia Apple Growers Association to facilitate communication, increase awareness, promotion and consumption of Virginia apples by developing a website through which information can be exchanged between producers, consumers, commercial apple processors, retailers, educators and industry boards
- Increase specialty crop sales from Virginia to Canada, evaluate the market in the Toronto area, conduct in-store promotions, and visit existing and potential specialty crop customers in Canada
- Partner with George Washington Regional Commission to increase the economic competitiveness of specialty crops by providing incentives for federal nutrition assistance recipients and facilitate an educational program that highlights specialty crop uses for low-income families. The project staff has established a series of controls to ensure that grant funds will only be used to benefit specialty crops
- Partner with Appalachian Sustainable Development to increase from 40 to 75 the number of local organic and conventional specialty crop growers who are Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certification ready, by providing them with comprehensive GAP training and through its Healthy Families – Family Farms Program will use education and media events to increase consumer awareness of the nutritional value of specialty crops, especially among low-income, underserved populations
- Partner with Local Food Hub to create and host hands-on workshops and classes at Maple Hill Educational Farm, with topics ranging from sustainable crop planning, organic pest management, season extension, and other sustainable and organic farming methods, and develop the next generation of specialty crop producers through apprentice and internship opportunities, classes and seminars
- Partner with Virginia Tech to evaluate the performance of a novel prototype greenhouse and assist in publicizing the findings and results to extension agents, the public, and industry in Virginia solar greenhouse
- Partner with Virginia Association for Biological Farmers to test two different management practices centered on trap crops and beneficial companion plants to help extend the life and productivity of summer squash plants throughout the state of Virginia
- Partner with Virginia State University to provide Virginia growers with an alternative specialty crop, fresh ginger root grown under high tunnels with considerable niche market potential
- Partner with Virginia Tech’s Eastern Shore Agricultural Research and Extension Center to support a potential carrot industry Virginia by conducting on farm cropping system evaluation for commercial carrot production with minimal economic exposure to the cooperating grower

- Partner with Virginia Tech to evaluate the residual efficacy of various soil-applied neonicotinoid insecticides for harlequin bug control, identify proper trap crop plant species through lab/research trials at Virginia Tech research facilities as well as on commercial vegetable farms in Virginia
- Partner with Virginia Tech to determine which stink bug species occur in Virginia caneberries and whether stink bugs use caneberries as feeding and/or reproductive host; determine efficacy of selected conventional insecticides, low-risk pesticides, and organic alternatives against stink bugs in caneberries; and determine the mechanisms of stinkbug feeding injury in caneberries
- Partner with Southwest Virginia Farmers Market to purchase sanitary and reusable plastic bins boxes for cooling to improve efficiency, reduce costs of distribution, enhance food safety and increase competitiveness of specialty crop farmers
- Partner with Eastern Shore Resource Conservation and Development Council to develop a management program for production, handling and use of poultry litter ash, a high phosphorus byproduct of poultry litter incineration in biomass to energy systems, as an alternative fertilizer source for organic and conventional fresh market tomato production
- Partner with Sustain Floyd to determine the feasibility of a food processing center in Floyd County, Virginia. The center will aggregate, process, store and package locally grown fruits and vegetables then market and distribute the products to regional buyers including institutions, college cafeterias, Farm-to-School programs, grocery store and restaurants
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Washington State Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$3,744,666.16	Number of Projects:	28
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- Partner with the Center for Produce Safety to determine the occurrence of microbial contaminants of fresh market apples and identify practices industry participants are using to mitigate these contaminants
- Partner with Washington State University’s Small Farms Team to collect data on specialty crop purchases and provide education at twenty farmers markets currently enrolled in the state legislature-initiated electronic benefits transfer/credit/debit pilot program and expand the technology to twenty new markets for the 2011 season. The use of tokens will allow the markets to separate specialty crops from non-specialty crops so that Washington State University can analyze only specialty crop data
- Partner with the Washington Apple Commission to provide training to key retailers in six emerging markets (Russia, Indonesia, Middle East, Malaysia, China, and Brazil) in produce department layout design and produce handling, including follow-up display contests and evaluations
- Partner with the Washington Sustainable Food & Farming Network to build public awareness and support through education, outreach, and organizing for twenty school districts in order to increase their purchases of Washington’s fruits and vegetables specialty crops
- Partner with Sustainable Connections to fulfill and increase the overall demand for locally produced specialty crops through targeted assessment, marketing, and promotion as well as increase the production capacity and competitiveness of Northwest Washington’s new and established specialty crop producers through business development and technical/production assistance
- Partner with the Washington Wine Industry Foundation to develop a free, web-based educational resource to provide Washington wineries guidance on improving sustainable practices through compiling and analyzing information that provides “real life” examples
- Assist small to medium sized specialty crop growers to develop value-added, processed products and to directly market these products through fostering an environment that enables producers to collaboratively identify alternative market opportunities to increase farm profitability
- Partner with the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Pear Bureau Northwest to augment market development and access, as well as provide consumer education concerning USA pear product and varietal development and nutritional benefits in Mexico
- Partner with the Northwest Agriculture Business Center to improve the economic sustainability of specialty crop producers in western Washington through the development of a network of people, businesses, products, and facilities to provide a route to market for local agricultural products. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities

- Partner with the Washington State Horticultural Association to demonstrate the size and spatial distribution of the economic effects of the tree fruit industry – both overall and for seven key tree fruit counties – through a study that examines its economic sustainability, stability, and development
- Partner with the Washington State Farmers Market Association to provide farmer education on critical topics in order to help them succeed at farmers markets as well as facilitate opportunities for specialty crop farmers and farmers markets to connect and network
- Conduct specialty crop agri-culinary tourism training workshops for specialty crop farmers and develop food-based/agritourism travel itineraries that advertise farms' offerings in order to drive consumer interest and increase participating businesses sales of specialty crops and services
- Conduct three trade development missions with industry leaders to India, Asia (Macau, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia), and Mexico and Latin America in order to perform market promotional activities, resolve industry-specific trade barrier issues, and identify future market opportunities for Washington grown specialty crops
- Partner with Washington State University's Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center to use knowledge and educational materials to reach additional growers and farm workers with knowledge of new insecticides, their proper fit into an integrated pest management program, and their safety relative to products they replace
- Partner with the Western Washington Agriculture Association to provide direct professional and technical assistance to specialty crop landowners/irrigators and the drainage and irrigation districts that will facilitate the implementation of improved water management and service delivery functions in the Skagit delta area. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Washington Farm Labor Association to identify the most important barriers – both employer and worker – that are preventing specialty crop producers from attracting a legal and stable workforce, and educate growers as to the strategies to overcome the barriers that exist
- Partner with 21 Acres to facilitate and promote workshops at the Annual Focus on Farming Conference that specifically address specialty crop topics of concern
- Facilitate four regional meetings designed to increase awareness of specialty crops among emergency food providers and bring the emergency food community together with local small and medium-size specialty crop farmers in order foster the development of a network of business interactions
- Partner with the Washington State Potato Commission to quantify the production efficiency and sustainability of recent clones and cultivars of potatoes from the Pacific Northwest Potato Variety Development Program
- Partner with Washington State University to take advantage of existing industry-supported research and field plantings of Nordmann and Turkish fir to identify superior sources and individual trees that are resistant to Phytophthora root rot and current season needle necrosis, are adapted to the Pacific Northwest climate and production conditions, and that exhibit superior postharvest needle retention
- Partner with Washington State University to determine whether raspberry varieties differ in their susceptibility to *P. penetrans*, and identify the conditions under which *P. penetrans* must be managed
- Partner with the Yakima Valley Growers-Shippers Association to improve the control of tree fruit pests and diseases by improving the internal processes of and coordination between county pest and disease boards
- Partner with Washington State University to continue research initiated in 2008-09 in large-scale grower-cooperator fields, which evaluates fungicide seed treatments, fungicide sprays, fumigation with Telone II, and cultural practices that enable growers to optimize the duration between herbicide kill and incorporation of cereal cover crops prior to planting onion or pea crops, by minimizing losses to *Rhizoctonia*
- Conduct a European Grapevine Moth survey to demonstrate pest-free areas of fruit production in Washington and if necessary provide information to support early detection and rapid response to any nascent European Grapevine Moth populations
- Partner with Washington State University to provide growers with improved diagnostic and management tools to reduce losses associated with the buildup of viral and soilborne fungal diseases
- Partner with the Washington Growers Clearing House Association to survey acreage inventories by crop, variety, age, productivity, and production system, which will assist tree fruit and grape growers in their decision-making processes and reduce the impacts of year-to-year variability

- Partner with the Cascade Harvest Coalition to address the financial and legal risks that beginning specialty crop farmers and farmland owners face in accessing different land tenure arrangements and help build new business relationships between the two groups
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

West Virginia Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$213,597.69	Number of Projects:	15
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- Partner with Mineral County Farmers’ Market Association to implement a marketing campaign to increase customer awareness of specialty crops at the three Mineral County farmers markets and foster an enhancement of consumer knowledge of farmers markets and the fresh produce they provide
- Partner with Wood County Development Authority to implement a marketing campaign to increase specialty crop consumption at a local farmers market. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Work with specialty crop producers to promote West Virginia specialty crops and value-added products in regional marketing events to create markets and increase demand for specialty crops
- Develop and implement a multi-media campaign centered on the production and consumption of specialty crops in West Virginia
- Increase consumer awareness of the availability of specialty crops at farmers' markets by holding a free, public sweet corn roast during National Farmers' Market Week thereby attracting media attention to specialty crops
- Partner with the Marion County Beekeepers Association to purchase new DVDs and a DVD player to assist in educating members and the general public about the honeybee
- Partner with West Virginia State University to introduce local youth to the aeroponic and hydroponic production of specialty lettuce and greens and test for these crops marketability in the local area
- Partner with E and K Enterprises to educate and assist rural specialty crop producers to analyze potential value-added products for internal production through the demonstration of value-added product research, implementation of food safety practices, and development of a marketing campaign
- Partner with the Gilmer County Economic Development Association to implement an educational program that targets underserved youth throughout Gilmer County in order to enhance their understanding of the need for agriculture, proper nutritional standards, and the importance of apiculture in the growth and harvest of specialty crops
- Partner with Davis & Elkins College’s Center for Sustainability Studies to develop and apply a viable model for community and truck gardens in small West Virginia towns through the establishment of community gardens at Kump House Education Center and provide educational opportunities to children and adults concerning the growth of specialty crops at the garden
- Partner with Little Patch on Lane Farmers to utilize a small farm as a teaching tool for families in the Putnam County area to learn about five core specialty crop subject areas, which include plant based education, health and wellness, environmental stewardship, community development, and the ease of home gardening
- Work with West Virginia University and Virginia Tech to offer three approved courses (Better Process Control School, Good Agricultural Handling Practices, and Recall Procedures) for specialty crop producers and manufacturers
- Work with West Virginia Beekeepers Association, county beekeeper organizations, Dr. Donald Trisel to develop and standardize a “do it yourself” sterilizer to be used as part of Nosema identification and eradication program and other maintenance practices associated with beekeeping
- Partner with the Friends of Milam Creek to serve the communities of McGraws, Ravencliff, and Milam through the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices and distribution of native West Virginia specialty crops, which will supply home gardeners and community members with fresh crops in their meals as well as improve the health status and lives of these underserved communities
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Amount Awarded:

\$1,056,177.63

Number of Projects:

26

- Facilitate informational sessions and distribute information materials to specialty crop producers regarding food safety issues and the importance of having a food safety plan as well as help offset producer costs of maintaining food safety plans through a cost-share program especially as it relates to specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Cranberry Museum to create a new web-based market outlet for Wisconsin-made cranberry products, increase sales of these products, and educate the consumer on the many uses for cranberries through the utilization of these specialty crop products
- Partner with the Wisconsin Grape Growers Association to employ a Viticulture Consultant/Marketing Specialist who will work with Wisconsin grape growers and vintners to develop a system to overcome barriers associated with producing and marketing wines made with Wisconsin grape varieties
- Work with the Wisconsin Apple Growers Association to enhance consumer awareness and demand for specialty crops in Wisconsin, improve traffic to SavorWisconsin.com and increase specialty crop producers listed on SavorWisconsin.com. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with the Wisconsin Nursery Association to conduct a survey that will determine the amount of revenue provided by the sale of nursery plants to the state's growers in order to inform decisions on how or whether to impose restrictions on the sale of taxa without imposing undue hardship
- Partner with the University of Wisconsin's Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems to develop an educational website that will share information with growers, prospective growers, and the general public regarding the potential social, environmental, and economic sustainability of a wide variety of perennial fruiting plants and plant systems
- Partner with the Wisconsin Maple Syrup Producers Association to upgrade its technology and communication with the maple industry in the Midwest in order to better implement its Maple Education Institute and bring cutting edge tools, techniques, and technology to current and future producers
- Continue to bridge the connection between education and farming for underserved specialty crop producers who indicate a strong desire to improve their understanding of sustainable farming methods, pest and disease management, and food safety
- Partner with the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Association to improve the raw product value and the finished product quality of processed potatoes by minimizing the negative effects of sugar end defect through conducting on-farm trials, developing raw product evaluation techniques, creating potato varieties with resistance to sugar end defect, and screening available processing russet potato varieties for sugar end development resistance
- Partner with the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association to develop potato production systems with drip irrigation and bed configuration to improve water and resource use efficiency
- Partner with the University of Wisconsin to develop a grower-driven sustainability program that is realistic for cranberry growers yet fulfills retailer objectives for improved methods to quantify the impacts of the supply chain
- Partner with the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association and the University of Wisconsin at Madison to identify alternative sprout management systems from Chlorpropham (CIPC) in fresh market, processed, and chipping potatoes
- Partner with the University of Wisconsin to develop regional grape cultivar recommendations based on grape quality and cold hardiness. Growers will also be educated on the procedures necessary to measure grape quality in the vineyard
- Partner with the Midwest Food Processors Association to evaluate nitrogen use efficiency (NUE) components with respect to new technologies in sweet corn hybrid, planting rates, and slow release fertilizers
- Partner with the University of Wisconsin to develop recommendations for utilizing automated cycled irrigation systems to reduce production costs and increase water use efficiency in cranberry production
- Partner with the University of Wisconsin to use soil moisture probes to schedule irrigation in order to develop recommended practices for cranberry growers, research is needed to determine optimal placement in the soil profile, spacing across the bed as well as any impacts on yield
- Partner with the University of Wisconsin to continue to perform field trials of new seedless table grape cultivars that will be utilized in fresh market production

- Partner with the Midwest Pickle Association to determine a definitive recommendation concerning the amount of calcium to be applied to pickling cucumbers and the timing of application to produce the highest quality green and brine product
- Partner with the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association to establish field trials on cooperative farms in order to assess current fumigation and alternatives to fumigation for disease control and, beyond year one, will determine the efficacy and economic return of such alternatives
- Partner with the Wisconsin Ginseng Board to utilize newly-registered pesticides with disease forecasting and scouting in order to reduce the overall amount of pesticides applied to ginseng gardens yearly while limiting the risk of resistance issues of strobilurin fungicides
- Partner with the Wisconsin Mint Board to perform field research and demonstration projects that will evaluate new germplasm and pest management systems for improved stand persistence for mint in Wisconsin
- Partner with the Commercial Flower Growers of Wisconsin to evaluate the effectiveness of two new low-risk bio fungicides that are listed as controlling disease and maintain a website that will list the newly compiled research data
- Partner with Wisconsin Grape Growers Association, Wisconsin Organic Advisory Council, and Wisconsin Honey Producers to expand the geographic area covered by Driftwatch.org to include Wisconsin specialty crops in order to facilitate effective communication between the specialty crop growers, pesticide applicators, and stewards of surrounding at risk habitats. Matching funds will be utilized to cover expenditures for non-specialty crop commodities
- Partner with Bayfield County and the University of Wisconsin Extension Service to disseminate crucial information about hazelnut production to growers developing the hazelnut processing capacity in Wisconsin, which will result in a rapid increase of hazelnut sales
- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations
- Hire a part-time grants specialist to maintain primary responsibility for the timely review and oversight of the individual Wisconsin Specialty Crop Block Grant Program grant awards

Wyoming Department of Agriculture

Amount Awarded:	\$206,135.09	Number of Projects:	9
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- Partner with Country Pride Potato, LLC in order to increase the marketing efforts for potatoes that will either enter the United States potato seed industry or the export markets of Mexico as fresh market table potatoes
- Support the Farm-to-School effort by hiring an intern to help increase the consumption and availability of Wyoming specialty crops in Wyoming Schools
- Partner with Wyoming Community Network to provide financial assistance to producers and agriculture organizations for specialty crop season extension activities, such as high tunnel construction, irrigation methods, other methods that increase the specialty crop season and the development of native seed production
- Partner with University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service to conduct high tunnel workshops to include construction of high tunnels throughout the state
- Partner with University of Wyoming Research and Extension Center to identify new releases of short growing season vegetable cultivars and evaluate and compare production inside to outside high tunnels as well as demonstrate, educate, and train growers about the advantages and the use of high tunnels to extend the growing season as well as techniques to build up on-site organic compost, through workshops
- Partner with Goshen County Fair Association to provide an opportunity for local specialty crop producers to add value to their produce by preserving the harvest and expanding the potential income from their operations through the provision of an affordable production area
- Partner with Arapaho Ranch, Blue Mountain Associates, Inc. and UW Wind River Extension Office to utilize acres of farm land to demonstrate the viability of producing organic small fruit, which will be shared with ranches and farms throughout Fremont County, Hot Springs County and the Wind River Reservation
- Support a position within Wyoming Department of Agriculture where 36 percent of their time will be devoted to provide information, promotional assistance and technical assistance to specialty crop growers. In addition the person will monitor the subgrantees through site audits, develop specialty crop promotional material, and coordinate state wide marketing efforts

- Perform pre-award and post-award activities in order to administrate the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funding and ensure that the State Agency and sub-awardees abide by Federal and State requirements and regulations